



THE INCIDENT OF ISRA' MI'RAJ FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF PHYSICS

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ABSTRACT

The Isra' and Mi'raj event is one of the important events in Islam, which is believed to be a miracle of the Prophet Muhammad. This event describes the Prophet Muhammad's journey from the Grand Mosque in Makkah to the Aqsa Mosque in Palestine, followed by a vertical journey to the sky to reach Sidratul Muntaha. Physically, the Isra' and Mi'raj event is a phenomenon that is difficult to explain. The journey from Makkah to Palestine takes at least 12 hours, while the vertical journey to the sky to Sidratul Muntaha takes much longer. In addition, the speed of light is the highest speed limit in the universe, so traveling at the speed of light or faster is impossible. Nonetheless, some physicists have tried to provide an explanation for the Isra' and Mi'raj events. One of the theories put forward is Heisenberg's uncertainty theory, which states that the position and momentum of an object cannot be known with certainty simultaneously. This theory can be used to explain how the Prophet Muhammad could be present in many places at almost the same time. Another theory put forward is the theory of annihilation, which states that energy can turn into light. This theory can be used to explain how the Prophet Muhammad could experience the process of purifying the heart. However, both theories still have limitations. Heisenberg's uncertainty theory cannot explain how the Prophet Muhammad could travel at a speed faster than the speed of light. Meanwhile, the theory of annihilation cannot explain how the heart purification process can turn the Prophet Muhammad into light. In conclusion, the Isra' and Mi'raj events are phenomena that cannot be fully explained by human science. This event is a miracle that can only be understood with faith.

Keywords: Isra Mi'raj, physics, incident,

1. INTRODUCTION

Allah SWT is the most perfect creator, no one can match his abilities. One of the creatures created by Him who has reason and is glorified is humans. In the time of the prophets, Allah has bestowed miracles on the prophets He chose. Miracles are considered

as an unusual event and as a sign or proof of divine greatness in the human world. One of the events recorded in His revelation and considered a miracle is when Allah SWT directly ordered the Prophet Muhammad Shallallaahu 'alaihi wassalam to undertake a journey across the universe, known as the Isra' Mi'raj event. The Isra' Mi'raj event is one of the important events believed by Muslims as a sign of the power and greatness of Allah SWT. Positive developments and changes can be seen from the improvement in the quality of learning, materials, learning support, networks, and others. However, the negative side is the change in student behavior patterns, ethics or morality. This change can be seen in speech, behavior, and habits. It is undeniable that a strong character will affect a person's life at various stages of development and become the gateway to success in the future. A strong personality will form a strong psychology and vice versa.

Isra 'Mi'raj is a spiritual journey experienced by the Prophet Muhammad SAW, starting from the Grand Mosque in Mecca, then heading to the Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem and then reaching the sky, where he met the prophets and also Allah SWT. In this event, Allah SWT obeyed the command to pray five times a day and conveyed it to his people. After the Messenger of Allah completed the task given by Allah SWT, he shared this experience with his people, describing the extraordinary signs of Divine power that were shown to Him. The Prophet returned to his community in a condition that had not changed anything; still healthy, body and soul intact, while the very long journey of Isra 'Mi'raj only took half a night. This is something that is very difficult or even impossible for humans in general to do.

Of course, this situation may cause disbelief for individuals who do not have the support of strong knowledge and belief. This event can be considered unreasonable for those who emphasize logic. However, as time goes by and science develops, especially with the advancement of scientific theory, the Isra' Mi'raj event can be explained from the perspective of physics, so that it is more acceptable to human reason.

Physics is a field of knowledge that has the capacity to reveal and explain natural phenomena, both general and those containing elements of miracles. One example is when the Prophet Muhammad performed Isra' and Mi'raj in a very short period of time, traveling across several layers of the sky without relying on sophisticated transportation that had not been discovered at that time. In the development of society, Physics has a substantial impact on various aspects, such as technology, transportation, communication, and even in the medical field. In the world of education, physics scientists also make important contributions through their research which produces new theories that have a significant influence.

In this paper, the author aims to examine various physics theories that are relevant to the Isra' Mi'raj event, with the intention of providing an understanding based on scientific methods of the event. This research also involves an analysis of previous studies that have a similar focus. This research aims to expand scientific knowledge about phenomena that are generally considered impossible for humans but can be explained through physical concepts. In addition, this research will also explore the verses of the Qur'an that support some of these theories, making it one of the recognized sources of knowledge.

Through this research, it is hoped that human faith in the power and greatness of Allah SWT will be strengthened, and their belief in the truth of the Qur'an will become stronger.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

The method used in writing this research is the library research method, then this research is descriptive in nature which aims to describe what is contained in the text being studied critically. Literature review refers to theoretical studies and other references related to values, culture, and norms that develop in the context of the research. Data is obtained from data relevant to the questions being studied by conducting a literature review such as books, journals, previous research papers. In the context of the perspective of physics, this study also tries to analyze the Isra' Mi'raj event by considering aspects of natural phenomena such as time, space, and dimensions, using relevant modern physics concepts to describe more technically the events contained in the text being studied.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Development of Science

The rapid development of science and technology in the current era has resulted in human progress in understanding and developing understanding and knowledge about the universe. If there was no progress in science and technology, many events that occurred during the prophetic period would be considered negative or mystical by some people. During the time of the Prophet, some individuals doubted the truth of the Isra' Mi'raj event, some even chose to leave Islam. However, this did not stop the efforts of the Prophet Muhammad SAW in preaching and guiding his people to the right path.

Analytical Study of the Prophet's Isra' Mi'raj Event from a Physics Perspective

In language, Isra' refers to a journey that occurs at night. Isra' can be interpreted as an event when the Prophet Muhammad traveled from his starting point, namely the Grand Mosque in Mecca, to the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Palestine [3]. In accordance with its name, the Isra' event is also recorded in the Qur'an, especially in Surah Al-Isra' verse 1, which reveals that Allah the Most Holy has made His servant travel in one night from the Grand Mosque to the Al-Aqsa Mosque which has been blessed by Him, to show some of His greatness. In this verse, "We blessed its surroundings" refers to the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the surrounding area which received blessings from Allah SWT through the descent of prophets there and the abundance of agricultural produce on the land. Apart from the Al-Qur'an, the events of Isra' Mi'raj are also documented through hadith narrated by the Prophet's friends, such as Abu Dzar Al-Ghifari, Anas bin Malik, Malik bin Sha'sha'ah, Jaabir bin Abdillah, Abu Hurairah, Ibn Abbas, Ubay bin Ka'b, Buraidah Al-Aslami, and others.

The distance between the Grand Mosque and the Aqsa Mosque is around 1500 km. At that time, technology and transportation facilities were not as good as they are today, so there were no mechanical vehicles such as planes, cars or ships. Therefore, it takes at least 40 days to travel from the Grand Mosque to the Aqsa Mosque. However, the real fact is that the Prophet Muhammad SAW was able to make this journey in a much shorter time than the normal estimated time.

Mi'raj, in the linguistic sense, refers to stairs. Mi'raj is a continuation of the previous journey by the Prophet Muhammad, namely Isra'. The path of the Mi'raj journey leads from the Al-Aqsa Mosque to the sky, reaching the final point which is the highest limit of human knowledge and understanding, known as Sidratul Muntaha. Sidratul Muntaha can also be interpreted as the highest place above the seventh heaven. This event is also found in the

Qur'an, especially in Surah An-Najm verses 13-18, which describes that Muhammad saw Gabriel in his original form in Sidratul Muntaha. Nearby is heaven as a place to live, and Muhammad saw Gabriel when Sidratul Muntaha was covered by something unimaginable. Muhammad's gaze did not turn away from what he saw, and he did not go beyond it either. This is an experience that allowed Muhammad to witness some of the great signs of God's power[4].

Unlike Mi'raj, Isra' took place in the same dimension, namely within the scope of the Earth. Mi'raj, on the other hand, is a journey that takes place in a different dimension or space. Isra' is a horizontal journey from one location to another on Earth, while Mi'raj is a vertical journey from Earth to outer space. The journey undertaken by the Prophet Muhammad that night is known as Isra' and Mi'raj. As explained by religious leaders, "The Isra' Mi'raj of the Prophet Muhammad SAW is an important event whose story is recorded in the Qur'an and must be believed, where the result of the Isra' Mi'raj of the Prophet Muhammad SAW is the command to perform the five daily prayers which are obligatory.

The Isra' and Mi'raj event is a truly amazing event, because it occurred in only about two-thirds of the night, with a journey covering a distance of more than billions of kilometers. This happened at a time when sophisticated transportation technology did not yet exist. Until now, the total distance of the Isra' and Mi'raj journey traveled by the Prophet Muhammad is still difficult to ascertain. However, it is estimated that the total distance traveled by the Prophet Muhammad SAW on the journey exceeded 12.96×10^{22} km. This is due to the fact that in his journey, the Prophet Muhammad had exceeded the limits of matter in the universe (Nuryadin, 2022). Based on information provided by physicists, "The theory of cosmology states that the age of the universe is 13.7 billion years" [5]. Therefore, the following estimate of the total time is obtained,

$$t = 13.7 \times 10^9 \times 365 \times 24 \times 60 \times 60 \text{ s}$$

$$t = 4.32 \times 10^{17} \text{ s (1)}$$

By understanding the estimated total time required to explore the entire universe, we can replace equation (1) with equation (2) to calculate the distance that the Prophet Muhammad had to travel on his Mi'raj journey.

$$R = c \times t$$

$$R = 3 \times 10^8 \times 4.32 \times 10^{17} \text{ km}$$

$$R = 12.96 \times 10^{25} \text{ km (2)}$$

Despite having to travel a very long distance, the Prophet Muhammad managed to complete this journey in a relatively short time, about two-thirds of a night.

Isra' Mi'raj's View on Kelvin's Zero Theory

Isra' Mi'raj can also be explained using the Kelvin Zero Theory. When the Prophet Muhammad made the Isra' and Mi'raj journey, he could be seen in various places simultaneously. This concept can be illustrated in physics through experiments with microscopic particles. In 1920, which was the same time when physicists such as Bohr and Heisenberg were trying to identify the properties of subatoms, Indian physicists, Satyendra Nath Bose, and Albert Einstein worked together to develop the law of Bose-Einstein condensation. Bose-Einstein Condensation occurs when the temperature of matter drops to near absolute zero (zero Kelvin), which causes the momentum of the matter to approach zero. This indicates that matter and the atoms in it will not move[6]. On June 5, 1995, the Kelvin Zero Theory was tested by Eric Cornell and Carl Wieman at the

University of Colorado laboratory using rubidium gas, which they did under the direction of the National Institutes of Standards and Technology.

They managed to lower the temperature to 0.000000001 degrees above absolute zero. The findings of this study were then published on July 14, 1995. This experiment was then expanded to test sub-atomic particles of the fermion type in 1997. The results of both experiments are in accordance with the hypothesis formulated by Albert Einstein and Satyendra Nath Bose. Particles that are cooled to zero Kelvin have energy that is increasingly close to zero. In addition, the particles create a new form, which cannot be described as gas, liquid, solid, or plasma. This new form occurs because it violates the laws of physics that apply to objects, including the Pauli Exclusion Principle and the Law of Gravitation. This new form is known as the "New State of Matter," where a group of particles seem to merge and behave like a single particle, which is caused by the wavelength value approaching infinity and the frequency getting smaller. With momentum that is almost zero, which causes particles to almost lose their wave properties, the position of the particles can be anywhere, and can even overlap each other.

When particles are cooled to near zero Kelvin, the effect is to reduce energy to be smaller until it approaches zero. The wavelength value will approach infinity when the energy of the Prophet Muhammad weakens or approaches zero. Therefore, the Prophet Muhammad could be in various places at almost the same time. As explained by religious experts, "Some argue that before reaching Palestine, the Prophet Muhammad had stopped in two places. First, in Baitul Lahmin, the birthplace of Isa bin Maryam. Second, in Saina Hill, which is the place where Moses received the Torah."

Isra' Mi'raj's View on Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle

In 1920, Werner Heisenberg and Niels Bohr attempted to identify subatomic properties. In this effort, they introduced two variables used to determine these properties, namely the momentum and position of the particle. The conclusion they made was that in determining subatomic properties, there is always a level of uncertainty. Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle states that one can only observe one physical aspect of a system accurately. This means that if we measure the position of a particle precisely, then the measurement of its velocity will be inaccurate, and vice versa. This principle states that this uncertainty is not caused by the limitations of the individual or the tools used, but is an inherent property of the universe. At the subatomic level, the universe seems to refuse to be fully revealed, because humans have limitations in their understanding. Only Allah SWT is All-Perfect and All-Knowing. Among scholars, there are differences of opinion regarding the Isra' and Mi'raj journey system carried out by the Prophet Muhammad. Some scholars argue that in the Isra' and Mi'raj journey, the body of the Prophet Muhammad SAW also participated.

Another opinion is that only the spirit of the Prophet Muhammad SAW made the Isra' and Mi'raj journey, because at that time, the Prophet Muhammad was seen at home. However, at the same time, his followers witnessed the Prophet Muhammad being seen in the desert that they passed through. Another opinion is that the Prophet Muhammad performed congregational prayers at the Al-Aqsa Mosque after undergoing the Isra' and Mi'raj journey. This fact is supported by statements from religious figures who explained that when the Prophet descended, Allah ordered all the angels and prophets in the sky to

descend with the Prophet Muhammad until he arrived at Baitul Maqdis. In this context, the Prophet Muhammad became the imam in the prayer, with the prophets, apostles, and angels as his congregation. In short, it can be concluded that there were three appearances of the Prophet Muhammad at different locations at almost the same time.

This appearance can be explained by the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle, where when we determine the momentum, the position becomes blurred, and the particles can overlap each other, and can be anywhere because the wavelength value reaches infinity. Therefore, the Prophet Muhammad could be in various places at almost the same time, with his body and spirit united. This is in accordance with the understanding of scholars, as explained in the interpretation of Al-Munir stated by Wahbah Zuhaily, which states that the Messenger of Allah undertook the journey of Isra' and Mi'raj in one body and spirit, as is the meaning of the phrase "bi 'abdihi".

The Isra' Mi'raj View in Annihilation Theory

In accordance with the verse of the Qur'an in Surah Adz-Dzariyat verse 49 which explains that Allah SWT created everything on this Earth with a pair, this is in accordance with the annihilation theory. This theory states that every material has its anti-matter. When a material meets its anti-matter, both will annihilate each other and produce light called gamma rays. This indicates that a material can turn into light, and this concept may be relevant in understanding the phenomenon of the Isra' and Mi'raj of the Prophet Muhammad, as explained by Celina & Suprpto in 2020. Conversely, the opposite phenomenon is also possible, which is called a reversible process. This occurs when two beams of light collide and annihilate each other, then producing two particles with the same energy as the energy of gamma rays. In other words, energy can be converted into matter through a certain process, and matter can also be converted back into energy.

Based on the command of Allah SWT, the Angel Gabriel visited the Prophet Muhammad to begin the journey of Isra' and Mi'raj. As explained in the view of religious experts, "One night, the Angel Gabriel woke the Prophet Muhammad SAW from his sleep. At that time, two angels suddenly opened the chest of the Prophet Muhammad SAW, took his heart, and placed it in a golden container in heaven which was then washed with zam-zam water. After that, faith and wisdom were put into his heart, and the heart was returned to his body. This action was done because the Prophet Muhammad SAW would be witnessed to great power through the Isra' Mi'raj journey. Therefore, the Prophet Muhammad SAW must be filled with faith and wisdom." It is estimated that the annihilation process occurred after the Angel Gabriel cleaned the heart of the Prophet Muhammad using zam-zam water, because the heart is considered the center of energy in the human body.

By cleaning the heart of the Prophet Muhammad SAW, it is possible that a reaction occurred with antimatter which caused the body of the Prophet Muhammad SAW to turn into light. However, it should be remembered that the Isra' Mi'raj journey involved a very long distance, more than billions of kilometers. Using the speed of light, it is very unlikely that the journey could be completed overnight. However, various sources state that the Isra' and Mi'raj journey was done overnight. This opinion is also supported by the verses of the Qur'an which are important beliefs for Muslims.

The annihilation theory challenges the theory proposed by Lavoisier regarding the law of conservation of matter, which states that matter is permanent, cannot be destroyed or created. Although it is true that matter generally cannot be destroyed or created, there are

exceptions in certain situations. These ordinary situations refer to the state of energy in everyday life without any special conditions.

4. CONCLUSION

There are several theories of physics that can partially explain the Isra' Mi'raj event, including the Kelvin Zero Theory and the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle. The Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle states that in a system, one can only observe half of its physical state precisely. In other words, if we measure momentum, then the position will be vague and has the potential to pile up in various places in space and time. This happens because the wavelength value goes to infinity. The Kelvin Zero Theory, on the other hand, refers to a condition where particles are cooled to near absolute zero temperature. This results in very low energy and approaches zero, which means the wavelength goes to infinity. Thus, the Prophet Muhammad could be present in many places at almost the same time.

These two theories can provide an understanding of the testimony of the Prophet's companions and people who saw the Prophet Muhammad SAW in a simultaneous form during the Isra' Mi'raj event. Although science and technology continue to develop, we as humans have limitations that cannot match the knowledge and abilities possessed by Allah SWT. Therefore, there are still shortcomings and limitations when trying to connect the Isra' Mi'raj event with science. We as humans have limited intelligence, so we cannot reveal all the mysteries of this universe. However, as humans, we are expected to seek knowledge and evaluate existing theories that are considered true, as an expression of gratitude for the blessings of intelligence that Allah has given us. The study of the Isra' Mi'raj event and its relationship to physics is also expected to increase our faith as Muslims, to continue to believe in the greatness of Allah SWT.

Of course, natural science will continue to develop over time, and no one knows what new theories might reveal in the future that can better explain the Isra' Mi'raj event from a physics perspective. With this hope, the author hopes that there will be further research on the same topic to further refine the understanding of Isra' Mi'raj in the context of physics.

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