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Q: 236 ? Title: Could you explain clearly the hadith of Bukhari Volume 4 book 54 chapter 4 number 441 page 283. do these verses contradict science .

Question

Could you explain clearly the hadith of Bukhari Volume 4 book 54 chapter 4 number 441 page 283. do these verses contradict science .I am totally confused and questions about throne of Allah, its size or the size

actually it is related to the sun, earth and the arsh of Allah. It seems to be confusing as science does not say like so. The summary of the hadith is?something like our prophet, peace be up on him,? one day,? was telling? one of the companion that after the sun sets it?reaches near to arsh ,?humbles to God and seek permission to rise again. We know that the sun never sets. It is the matter of the motion of earth in accordance with science.?You know many scientific facts which?has been discovered within 100/150 years, which was mentioned in the glorious Quran 1400 years ago. So, please clarify as?early as possible.

Answer

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Assalaamu `alaykum waRahmatullahi Wabarakatuh

We understand from your query that you are confused with regards to whether the sun moves around the earth or is it vice versa. Science tells us that the earth moves around the sun, whereas it appears from this narration that the sun moves and sets.

It should be understood that the teachings of the Noble Quran and Ahadith are absolute and not subject to error. To the contrary modern science is the outcome of ever changing research. There was a time when it was believed that the sun rotates the earth until around the 16th century when it was discovered that the sun did not revolve the earth.

Modern science proves that the sun has its own orbit and is moving (although not around the earth). This is exactly what Allah Ta'ala mentions in the Noble Quran

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[36:37] And a sign for them is the night. We strip (the cover of) the day from it, and they are suddenly in darkness. [38] And the sun is quickly proceeding towards its destination. That is the designing of the All-Mighty, the All-Knowing. [39] And for the moon We have appointed measured phases, until it turned (pale, curved and fine) like an old branch of date palm. [40] Neither it is for the sun to overtake the moon, nor can the night outpace the day. Each one is floating in an orbit.

It is as an explanation of the underlined verse that Nabi ??? ????? ?????? mentioned the narration you are referring to. The wording of the narration is as follows:

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Sayyiduna Abu Darr ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?relates that once at the time of sunset the Messenger
of Allah ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?asked: O Abu Darr! Do
you know where the sun goes to? I replied: Allah and His Messenger know best. He replied: It
goes until it prostrates beneath the throne then it seeks permission and permission is granted.
Soon a time will come when it will prostrate but it will not be accepted, it will seek permission but
will not be granted permission. It will be said to it: Return from where you have come, so it will
raise from the west. This is what is meant in the verse: And the sun is quickly proceeding
towards its destination. That is the designing of the All-Mighty, the All-Knowing.

In the above narration no mention is made of whether it is the sun which orbits the earth or vice
versa. This narration speaks of the movement of the sun in general.

Furthermore, to the onlooker it seems as though the sun is moving that is why we find the sun
rises from the east and moves all the way to the west. In every language the movement is
attributed to the sun. For example, in English we say ?sunrise? and ?sunset?. It could be in this
context that Nabi ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? also attributed movement to the sun. If the Noble Qur?n
said that the earth was moving around the sun, this would be difficult to comprehend as it

appears that the sun is moving around the earth.

Moreover the prostration of the sun takes place in a manner different from our prostration. Some scholars have interpreted the prostration of the sun as the obedience and subjugation of the sun. At some time or the other the sun is setting in different parts of the world. This shows the complete subjugation of the sun to the power of All-Mighty Allah.

And Allah knows best

Wassalamu Alaikum

Darul Iftaa, Madrassah In'aamiyyah