

thereby to an earth that is dead, in the beasts of all kinds that He scatters throughout the earth; in the changing of the winds and clouds that run their appointed courses between heaven and earth – [here] are indeed signs for people of understanding.

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Here, Allah tells us that in these created beings there are great signs, that is, evidence of the oneness and divinity of the Creator, and of His great power, mercy and all other attributes. But they are signs «for people of understanding» that is, for those who use their minds for the purpose for which they were created. So according to the level of rational thinking with which Allah has blessed His slave, that person will be able to benefit from these signs, and recognise them by way of his reasoning, thinking and pondering. In the «creation of the heavens», with their great height and breadth, their precision and perfection, and what Allah has placed in them of the sun, moon, and stars, and how they mark time in the ordering of people's affairs, and in the creation of «the earth» as a place where they could settle and abide, benefiting from everything in it and pondering it, there is an indication of Allah's unique powers of creation and control; this highlights His immense power by which He created it; His wisdom by means of which He perfected it, designed it beautifully, and regulated it; and His knowledge and mercy by means of which He placed what He placed on earth of things that are beneficial to humankind, serving their interests and meeting their needs.

In all of that there is the most eloquent proof of His perfection and that He alone is deserving of worship, because He alone creates and controls, and takes care of His slaves' affairs.

«in the alternation of the night and the day», which constantly follow one another; when one departs, it is succeeded by the other. This alternation of night and day results in alternation between heat and cold and moderate temperatures, and between long and short days and days of moderate length. All of that in turn leads to the