

Does Physics Give us Scope to Have Interpretation of Universe which is Not Materialistic Only?

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Abstract: *The materialistic paradigm has been an underlying and dominant paradigm by which we can anchor our interpretation of facts and theories in physics. There is inadequacy of this interpretation or frame to satisfactorily explain things about universe in the light of the recent developments in physics. These are the reasons to go into the domain of metaphysics which may not be materialistic only. This attempt promises to make scientific endeavor more purposive and self-fulfilling.*

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1. Introduction

Iqbal famously said in his lectures (1) that modern man needs spiritual inter-pretation of universe, but the question arises do the findings of contemporary physics come closer to the supposed purpose. Physics as we know is the study of physical nature of universe and our understanding of nature through inductive and deductive techniques is heavily biased by the paradigm of methodological naturalism.

Metaphysics rather materialistic metaphysics, has dominated the discourse of explanations which don't go beyond natural causes. One aspect of contemporary physics rather sciences is that when we go from the realm of known to unknown, what are the guiding aspects of any research. Is the empirical or experimental methodology or mathematical or logical constructions sufficient enough guide for future endeavor or the story has yet to be rediscovered.

The recent advances in sciences particularly physics and that too theoretical physics has led to developments which somehow indicate that may be our understanding of universe leads us towards things in substances and forms which cannot be entirely explained via material causes only from start to end. Our sophisticated models and theories of universe like string theory predict rather point to the fact ultimate explanations should have mathematical answers which are consistent and self consistent within their own systems. On the other hand our experimental data whether from cosmology, particle physics and other experiments are lagging somehow to connect the speculative, mathematical and experimental aspects in a satisfactory way.

Does this all lead to question the basic import of our understanding that essence of universe is not material only. Here I would like to assert that the question of ontology of universe its creation as of now is mired into questions of resolving singularities (infinitude) which is beyond spatio-temporal explanation. Einstein and others had eluded to the existence of Pre established harmony which is in perpetual unfolding to human understanding in a subtle manner. Thus a beyond materialistic interpretation of universe can be qualified by the understanding that our need to believe in rational order may not necessarily stem from discovering

patterns in material causes which we may predict but can have explanations beyond them.

The explanations can be rooted in belief in Unitarian ideology whether derived from religion like (Tawheed) or promethean metaphysics (Greeks). The need for supernatural which leads not necessarily to anthropic explanations or personal God does suppose that our existence was not result of some accident which is what interpreters of the event of Big Bang would want us to believe. The random collocations of atoms and collisions lead to formation of stars, galaxies and beings who are bothered by purpose and causation of things. The best explanation for the actual world may be that it is the best possible world [2]. Our evolution in the universe may have some design which is also evolving and the purpose has to be discovered in metaphysics which is in symphony with the non materialistic interpretation of universe.

References

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- [2] Cosmology Ontology and Epistemology Don N. Page