

Essay

Searching God

By Musafir



When I was younger I often used to debate in my mind whether God created us or we created the concept of God. After maturing I came to the conclusion that whoever or whatever created all of us is God because it's beyond anyone else's ability to create, maintain and destroy the entire universe and beyond. I didn't need to be a theologian or a savant to know that. I also spent some time reading about the concept of God as described in three most populous religions in the world, Christianity, Islam and Hinduism. I found stark similarities in the concept of God in all those religions. However, I also found that those beliefs were not above contentions and contradictions.

God in Christianity is the eternal being who created and preserves all things. There is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, the messenger who is considered the son of God.

However, the above statement has always been debated by different scholars, branches of Christianity and schools of

thoughts. The concept of God is different in the Old Testament versus the New Testament. Later, the religious scholars put their heads together to abate and reconcile the differences.

Another controversy (that was later reconciled by the scholars and religious councils) was about the concept of trinity, Father, Son, Holy Ghost. Some followers of Christianity considered them as three different entities. Later it was decided that it was the same God in three persons. The differences about the concept of God still exist. For example, Mormons believe (According to Joseph Smith) that God was once a man on another planet before being exalted to Godhood. Many Christians cite The Bible in claiming that Jesus was God. In the religion of Islam, belief in Allah is the single most important tenet. The Muslim name for God is "Allah," which is simply Arabic for "the (al) God (Ilah)." Muslims believe that Muhammad was Allah's chief servant and messenger.



I find Islam (submission) easy to comprehend. The concept of Allah never changes in Islam. Every Muslim child and



names such as God, Allah and Brahman. They are different but similar.

(The writer is not a theologian. If you want to contradict, correct and/or educate him, you are very welcome to do so.)

adult clearly understands the concept of one God no matter where on earth that person resides. There has been no deviation or reconciliation in God's concept in Islam. According to one Islamic scholar, Allah's will "is all we have, and we have it in perfection in the Quran

I am a Hindu. According to Hinduism there is one God, the supreme spirit, called Brahman. Brahman has many forms permeating in the entire universe. Most Hindus believe that Brahman is present in every person as soul. It is also called the atman. Brahman encompasses everything and all phenomena. Brahman is one, without a second (Ekam evadvitiam).

The Vedas are the earliest Holy book of the Hindus. The Vedas conceptualize Brahman as supreme. In the Upanishads (appendices to Vedas), God has been described as Sat-cit-ānanda (truth-consciousness-bliss) and as permanent and of highest reality. Hinduism allows its followers to worship God in many forms such as nature (wind, fire, etc.) and devas (divinities), thus it is misconstrued as polytheistic.

All religions believe in the existence of only one God who created the world; who is all-powerful and sustains everything. All religions including Christianity, Islam and Hinduism worship the same God in different