

## Surah 42. Ash-Shura

Asad: And among His signs is the [very] creation of the heavens and the earth, and of all the living creatures which He has caused to multiply throughout them:<sup>33</sup> and [since He has created them,] He has [also] the power to gather them [unto Himself] whenever He wills.

Malik: Among His signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the living creatures that He has spread in both of them: and He is capable of gathering them all together whenever He wants.

Pickthall: And of His portents is the creation of the heaven and the earth, and of whatever beasts He hath dispersed therein. And He is Able to gather them when He will.

Yusuf Ali: And among His Signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth and the living creatures that He has scattered through them: and He has power to gather them together when He wills. <sup>4568 4569</sup>

Transliteration: Wamin ayatihi khalqu alssamawati waalardi wama baththa feehima min dabbatin wahuwa AAala jamAAihim itha yashao qadeerun

Khatab:

And among His signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth, and all living beings He dispersed throughout both. And He is Most Capable of bringing all together whenever He wills.

### Author Comments

33 - Lit., "in both". In the Qur'an, the expression "the heavens and the earth" invariably denotes the universe in its entirety.

4568 - Dabbatun: beasts, living, crawling creatures of all kinds: see n. 166 to ii. 164. Similarly in xxiv. 45, and other passages, the word is used for living creatures of all kinds, life generally, whose material basis is the mysterious thing which science calls protoplasm. The more our biological knowledge increases, the more do we marvel at the unity of Life on the one hand, and its diversity on the other.

4569 - Life is not confined to our one little Planet. It is a very old speculation to imagine some life like human life on the planet Mars. Though no scientific demonstration is possible, it is reasonable to suppose that Life in some form or other is scattered through some of the millions of heavenly bodies scattered through space. What a wonderful Sign of Allah! The Almighty Who created such countless beings has surely the power to bring them together.

[View Page](#)

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