

Understanding Buraq through Hadith, History and Physics

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1. Summary:

Buraq is characterized in Islamic history as a speedy, luminous, non-material creature larger than a donkey but smaller than a mule that carried the Prophet Muhammad from Makkah to Jerusalem and was employed by prior prophets. It explores its physical descriptions in hadith, its lightning-fast pace, and speculates on scientific concepts like light-speed travel, temporal dilation, and higher dimensions to explain the Isra and Mi'raj journeys. It mentions that Buraq is not composed of regular stuff, can cancel inertial forces, and has appeared to prophets in changed sacred sites. Historical accounts, similarities to mythological creatures, and explanations of popular beliefs (such as wings or a human face) are also given.

2. Introduction

Buraq is a physical creature, a dābba(دَبَّة), animal, which can run much faster than a normal horse. It moves so quickly that it jumps as far as the eye can see. Another proof that Buraq is a physical entity is that there are numerous narrations regarding the anatomy of Buraq¹.

Buraq was a white, winged creature larger than a donkey but smaller than a mule. It could move at incredible rates, traversing huge distances with each step. Li>! barq

"lightning/emitted lightning" or several broad meanings derived from the verb "to beam, flash, gleam, glimmer, glisten, glitter, radiate, shimmer, shine, sparkle, twinkle". "Buraq" is the Arabized form of "Middle Persian barag or barag, 'a riding beast, mount' whose gender is contested; some say it is male, others say it is female, and some say it is neither male nor female².

The Prophet Muhammad rode Buraq from Makkah to Jerusalem. A hadith stated the following: "I was brought by Buraq, an animal white and long, larger than a donkey but smaller than a mule, who would place its hoof a distance equal to the range of its vision"³.

2. Science

2.1 Speed

The speed of the Buraq is unknown, but we know it was not slow because the term literally signifies lightening. According to the Encyclopedia of Islam, that literally implies lightning-fast speed, and the sentence who would set its hoof a distance equal to the range of its vision signifies that it was not slow and is a figure of speech to explain faster speeds.

So we can drive from it that whatever might the vison capabilities of that Buraq be, its one stride was that distance, or another more accurate interpretation is that this sentence is explaining the speed of light in pre relativistic terms, so we can infer that the Buraq used to travel at the speed of light or faster than it, the capabilities of matter is the only thing that is bound to the speed of light, and Buraq is not matter, as will explain further.

One effect on the Buraq, which will be explained in my paper on the Miraj, is length contraction. When moving near the speed of light, space contracts its length from the object's perspective. For example, a journey of 1,236 km would be reduced to 1.75 km if this effect is considered. Let us now consider time dilation (the phenomenon where time passes at various rates for people moving at different speeds). With the shortened length, the time would be 5.8 microseconds relative to the Buraq and 4.1 milliseconds for the earth observer.

2.2 Matter

Buraq is not made of matter because it is known as luminous and spiritual, just like angels or Jinns who are in higher dimensions and are not made of matter. It is likely that the Buraq was made of something light-related, but there is no account that states it very specifically, so why would the Buraq be any different? It is made of something more, a celestial substance that acts like matter but is not bound by these limits. Another point is that physics says that $E = mc^2$, which means that mass and energy are related and convertible into one another, and matter is also fundamentally the same, so that should happen with the high-speed travel of the Buraq, but it does not since, as I indicated, it is not made of matter.

2.3 Perspectives/Calculations

Let us first understand the magnitude of the distance covered in just some time. If we were to say that the Buraq was to travel at approximately the speed of light and calculated the very rough estimate with the distance of the skies and the earth with this ayah 70:4, we would get the distance to be 50,000 years, so in distance that would make the journey as long as 4.730410A20 m and if we travel at the speed of light, then that would make the journey 5256 seconds or (1.46 hours. And the Israh part of the journey was from Makah to Jerusalem which is 1,236 kilometers in distance from each other and if the Buraq is traveling at the speed of light then that is 299,792,458 meters per second that factored in will take only 0.00412 seconds or 4.12 milliseconds but we know that the Prophets took stops in between this travel which are 4 stops give or take and we do not know the duration of these stops let us assume they are 5 minutes long stops that would.

2.4 Effects

To explain the seemingly easy travel. One of two things must have happened: either the Buraq traveled the journey instantaneously in such a way that the effects did not play a role as in a conventional sense, or the Buraq canceled out any inertial force in a way that prevented any physical sensation of motion, which is also present of an effect in space. In these cases, the change of dimensions would have played a crustal role,

but this is all speculation and Allah Knows Best.

3. History

3.1 Other Prophets / And Timelines

It is mainly known for the voyage of Isra wa Miraj, but is supposed to have served other prophets as well.

According to Ibn Ishaq, the Buraq transported Abraham when he went to see Hagar and Ishmael. According to tradition, Abraham lived in Canaan with Sarah, but the Buraq would bring him to Mecca in the morning to see his family and return in the evening.

According to Tirmidhi, the Prophet PBUH stated, "It had a harness and saddle." Jibril AS was holding the harness as the Prophet PBUH mounted al-Buraq. Then it is related that al-Buraq leaped up, but Jibril AS grabbed the harness and screamed, "Woe to you; are you not ashamed? Wallahi, no one has rode you who is more blessed in Allah's eyes than your current rider. This indicates that al-Buraq has been ridden by other riders/creations.

3.2 Strange fact

The Prophet PBUH then stated, "I rode him, and he took me until we reached Bayt al-Maqdis." At the time, there was no sanctuary, mosque, synagogue, or temple at Bayt al-Maqdis because Jerusalem was under Roman control. The Roman Emperor ordered that the holy site of the temple be converted into a junkyard/trash dump, a filthy area to show disrespect for the Jewish heritage. Historically, Christians have been known to be antisemitic, yet when the Prophet PBUH came here, he saw the Bayt al-Maqdis as it was (Allah AWJ presumably brought about the original Temple of Sulayman or something, and the Prophet PBUH was praying there.)

The Prophet (PBUH) then stated, "And I tied al-Buraq to the animal post used by the prophets." This definitely demonstrates that the Prophet PBUH is viewing a

structure that is not visible to mortals at this time. Because, clearly, Prophet Sulayman's post will not be present 300 years later. Allah AWJ is essentially showing the Prophet PBUH the original Bayt al-Maqdis, where the Prophet PBUH is physically present. And this is Allah's might beyond our comprehension.

3.3 Further explanation

The Prophet's dimensions shift as a result of high-speed travel and breaching the dimension of time. This phenomenon is further explained in my research on the Miraj part of the journey

4. Problems with high-speed travel

So, after we concluded that the Buraq used to travel at the speed of light, we can now apply this notion to the Miraj section of the journey.

- So, if that is the case then well the time for it would move much slower for it and that is the opposite of what happened
- Then another effect that will occur is that the length of the distance would contract so it would occur to be a much smaller journey than normal
- Radiation is and particle damage would have to be shielded
- You can never hit the speed of light unless you are massless or use methods like FTL or in other sense Warp drive or Portals since there is a relevance in mass and energy then the mass would keep on increasing and so will the energy in this manner
- Gravitational force is another issue if the Buraq accelerated very quickly
- There are more visual effects that come with this high-speed travel such as Darkness Behind You and Universe Appears Warped/Distorted which do not effect physically anything but it is worth mentioning

5. Others

5.1 Beyond Human Perception

Ibn Hazm says, if another man had seen even a quarter of what the Prophet PBUH did, he would have gone insane. Indeed, the Prophet (PBUH) reached another planet, or dimension.

In Greek mythology, the Pegasus had the powers of immortality, flight, and creating water springs, all of which correlate with the powers of the Buraq. We can also consider the fact that Ibrahim (AS) used the Buraq because the Greeks knew something when they said that the so-called creature Pegasus could create water springs.

5.2 Misconceptions

Although authors like as Ibn Hisham, Tabari, and Ibn Sa'd represented Buraq's legs as having wings that allowed it to walk forward, Buraq is also mentioned without wings in other historical texts. In various traditions, Buraq has wings, however this is not described in any reputable narration, and it does not have a human face⁴.

6. Stops Taken

6.1 Madinah (Yathrib)

The Prophet was shown the city and told this would be his place of migration.

6.2 Mount Sinai (TOr Sina')

Where Allah spoke directly to Prophet Musa (Moses).

6.3 Bethlehem

The birthplace of Prophet Isa (Jesus).

6.4 The Grave of Musa

The Prophet said he saw Musa praying in his grave near the red sandhill.

6.5 Al-Masjid al-Aqsa (Jerusalem)

This was the final destination of Isra, where he led all the Prophets in prayer.

7. Conclusion:

Buraq is a unique, non-material, divinely formed being whose qualities transcend physical rules as we know them, emphasizing that only God knows its full nature.

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