

THE SKELETAL SYSTEM (CONT.)

WITH THE NAME OF ALLAH, MOST GRACIOUS, MOST MERCIFUL.

The human skeleton has 206 bones!

Let us take a glimpse into the miraculous system of the human skeleton:

The skull

Our Rabb has so fused the 22 bones of the skull that it forms a hard-walled cavity to protect the brain. Yet there is provision for openings of the eyes the ears, the mouth and for the spinal cord.

Our creator has enabled one jaw (the lower one) to move so that eating and drinking becomes easy and possible.

Furthermore, Allah (S.W.T.) has arranged for sockets within the jaws for teeth to grow. Also, the skull rests on the atlas and Allah (S.W.T.) has made it possible for a person to turn his / her head, to move it up or down, --- all by means of just one bone called the axis!

The ribs and the spine

With pairs of ribs our Rabb has developed a strong cage to protect the heart and the lungs from easy injury. By means of cartilages it is possible for one to breathe comfortably. Some of the bones of the spine our maker has made flexible for movement. Others he fused into a solid structure in order to give firm support (lower back).

Between most of the spinal bones Allah (S.W.T.) has placed cartilages which act like shock absorbers of a car, so that if one were to suddenly jerk one's back, the bones would not get crushed or broken easily!

The joints

Like man-made machines our Rabb has placed many joints within the body to make movement possible. In man-made machines the metal, the rubber and the lubricating agent (e.g. Oil) have to be frequently replaced as they wear out or burn out, but this does not happen to the system of joints in the human body.

As an example, the knee-joint has synovial fluid (lubricating agent) between the various bones in and around the knee, but this fluid never needs to be drained out or replaced for an entire lifetime!

All thanks and praise to our Rabb for such superb engineering!

Worksheet

1) What is the difference between that which Allah (S.W.T.) has created and man- made machines?

2) How is it possible for a person to turn the head, move it up or down?

3) What is the function of the cartilages between most of the spinal bones?

4) How does our Rabb protect the heart and the lungs from easy injury?
