

Correspondence with Avicenna (Ibn Sina) over two years!

Dispute over the eternity of universe (vs. Avicenna)

- Advocates universe has a beginning,  
created (by God)

- Similar to Al-Ghazali & St. Augustine

Strongly attacks Aristotle's  
Celestial Physics/natural philosophy  
Beginning of universe vs. eternal matter

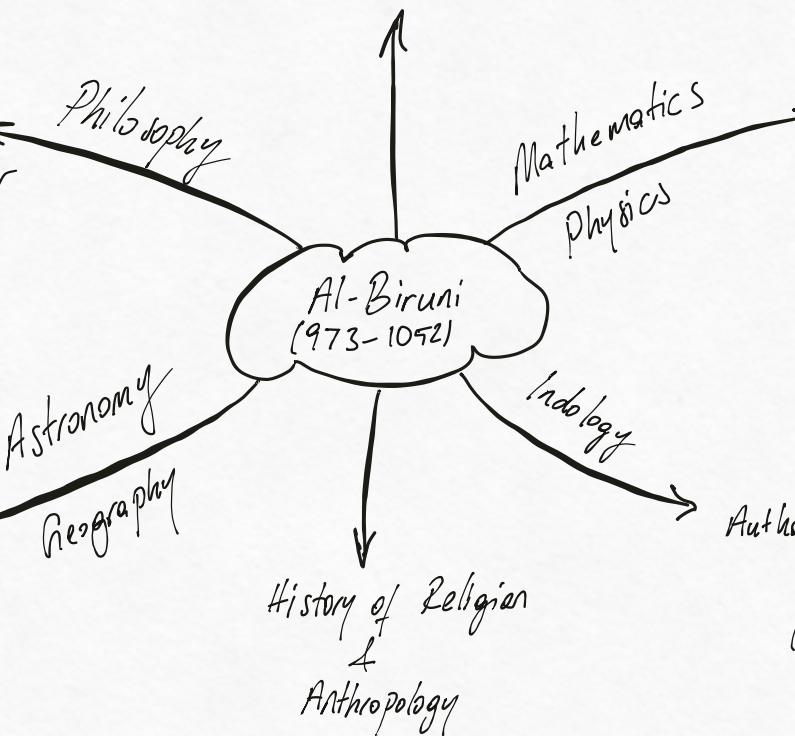
Al-Biruni rejects Aristotle's idea of heavenly bodies have no mass  
He also rejected "static" universe  
(celestial)  
and argued elliptical orbits  
*\* Universe not created as whole!*

Rejected viewing the world  
thru the lens of metaphysics  
advocated viewing it thru  
the lens of science \*

Method to determine Earth's radius  
(leveraged height of mountain & trigonometry)  
he measured it by only 2% inaccuracy vs. actual  
He "theorized" the existence of Americas

Born in Khwarezm, modern day Uzbekistan  
Islamic Golden Age

Wrote 146 books on multiple disciplines  
Physics, mathematics, astronomy, history, geometry



- He was the first dividing hour sexagesimally (base of 60) into minutes & seconds
- Developed hydrostatic experimental method to measure density of irregular shaped solids
- Developed algebraic techniques to solve 3rd degree equations

Authored the encyclopedic book  
"History of India"  
(Tarikh al-Hind)  
*remained untaught!!!*  
He studied culture, science, religion  
areas of India

He studied religions comparatively and  
genuinely tried to understand them rather  
than trying to prove them

"All cultures are distant relatives, because  
includes human as common element"

↓  
(First) Anthropologist / One of the greatest  
social scientists