

HOW WAS THE WORLD CREATED?



Judeo-Christian

How the world came to be:

God created the world in six days, beginning with the day and night, then the sky, sea and earth, then the sun, moon and stars, then the animals and finally the first man, Adam, which he shaped in His image. He later created the first woman, Eve, from Adam's rib.

Evidence:

It says so in Genesis.



Hindu

How the world came to be:

Several creation stories, in which the universe is in a never-ending cycle of creation, destruction and rebirth. In the beginning, there was nothing but darkness. The god Vishnu slept in the coils of a giant cobra, and upon awakening bore the god Brahma from a lotus, who in turn created the world and its inhabitants.

Evidence:

It says so in the Vedas.



Shinto

How the world came to be:

In the beginning of time creation was mixed together in a great cloud. The lighter parts rose and became the heavens, while the heavier parts descended and became ocean. From this a sprout began to grow into a flower, and when it opened the First God appeared. The First God created Izanagi and his wife Izanami, who together plunged a jewel-crested spear into the ocean. When they pulled it out, the first island of the Japanese archipelago was created. Izanagi and Izanami descended to the island and from there created the rest of the world.

Evidence:

It says so in the Kojiki.



Chinese Myth

How the world came to be:

From the chaos of creation formed a cosmic egg, within which the principles of Yin and Yang became balanced. The creator Pangu emerged from the egg and created the earth and the sky. To separate the two he stood between them and pushed. The task took 18,000 years, during each day of which the sky grew ten feet higher, the earth ten feet thicker, and Pangu ten feet taller.

Evidence:

It says so in the Shanwu Liji.



Norse

How the world came to be:

In the dark void of the beginning of time the giant Ymir was born from poison and frost, who suckled from the great cow Audumla. From her came the being Buri, who fathered Borr, who fathered the gods Odin, Vili and Ve. Borr's sons slew Ymir and created the earth from his body. The first man and woman, Ask and Embla, were created from an ash tree and an elm tree respectively.

Evidence:

It says so in the Eddas.



Science

How the world came to be:

The universe was most likely created through some kind of Big Bang approximately 13.5 billion years ago. The Earth itself is around 4.54 billion years old, having been born through accretion in the solar nebula and eventually cooling and acquiring an atmosphere. Life on earth progressed and evolved from primitive organisms to increasingly complex and diverse species via mutation and natural selection. Hominids branched off from apes about 3 to 5 million years ago, with modern man first appearing around 200,000 years ago.

Evidence:

Radiometric dating, Hubble's law, observations of cosmic background radiation, primordial nucleosynthesis, distribution and morphology of galaxies, theory of general relativity, genetics and phylogenetics, heredity, hybridization, microevolution, the fossil record, comparative sequence alignment, vestigial and homologous structures, acquired antibiotic and pesticide resistance, geographic distribution and correlation, island biogeography