

Islamic Scripture

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There are Qualitative Principles within the Islamic Tradition that outline environmental responsibility for the human family. Four of these principles from the Qur'an, the word of God revealed to Muhammad, peace be upon him, are as follows:

1. Walking on the Earth lightly:

And the servants of the Most Merciful are those who walk upon the earth lightly, and when the ignorant address them harshly, they say words of peace.

Qur'an [25:63]

2. Living within and preserving the balance of the diverse creation:

*The sun and the moon run on their fixed courses of orbit;
And the stars and the trees both prostrate in worship;
He has raised high the Heavens, and He has set up the balance.
Therefore do not transgress the balance set!*

Qur'an [55:5-8]

3. The way out of self-destruction caused by wrongdoing is to return to ethical responsibility:

Corruption has appeared throughout the land and sea due to what the hands of people have wrought so He may let them taste part of the consequence of what they have done that perhaps they will return to goodness.

Qur'an [30:41]

4. God is faithful when we mend our ways

Nor would your Lord be the One to destroy communities for a single wrong-doing, if its members were to mend their ways.

Qur'an [11:117]