Clarion Review

Religion

Infotheism/God's Information: Strengthening the Dialogue Between Religions

Özer Uçuran Çiller
Adnan Tonguc, translator
Citlembik
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Four Stars (out of Five)

God really can be found in the details, literally, according to Özer Uçuran Çiller in this well-reasoned book.

Özer Uçuran Çiller's *Infotheism* eloquently expresses his belief that God exists and that we can discern his existence through a scientific understanding of the information contained within the basic building blocks of creation: information and energy.

In coining the term "infotheism," Çiller, a Turkish Muslim author, scholar, business executive, and entrepreneur, has described a faith in which scientific knowledge can lead to an understanding and acceptance of the belief in a creator God who gives evidence of himself in the subatomic particles that have carried his information since the beginning of existence. Çiller declares that science denying the existence of God is a weakness, since the "absence of proof is not proof of nonexistence."

"We cannot claim that sounds beyond certain frequencies do not exist, even though we cannot perceive or hear them," Çiller writes, adding that "if we believe in laws, then shouldn't we believe also in the existence of an entity that introduced those laws?" This weakness, he says, is shared by atheism, which, according to Çiller, relies on the belief that evolution is the result of a series of "coincidences," rather than of organized and intelligent action.

Infotheism is convincing in its discussion of the ways in which "the appearance of the universe can very well be determined through God's universal laws." The author makes ample use of his background in philosophy and metaphysics to support his faith and especially draws upon the work of the theosophists, who believe, as Çiller does, that "everything is thought, and every thought is information." He is also in agreement with the work of John Archibald

Wheeler, American physicist and pioneer of the theory of information, whom he quotes as saying that “it is ‘information,’ rather than atoms and quarks, that is the main principle of the universe.”

Translator Adnan Tonguç has done an admirable job of making this work accessible to English-speaking readers; while discussions of a scientific and philosophical nature may make for heavy reading, the language in this book flows well and errors in grammar and syntax are few. A clean and simple, yet meaningful, front and back cover design; a well-organized table of contents; an ample author biography; and a good list of sources at the end of the book add to its attractiveness and usefulness, and to the author’s credibility.

Çiller’s book offers the hopeful thesis that belief in a creator God on the evidence presented by science—rather than on the traditions of tribal groups, religions, and distinct cultures—may enable the Abrahamic faiths to discover the ledger is more heavily weighted by what they have in common than by what separates them.

Kristine Morris