## Reaching for the stars, and God

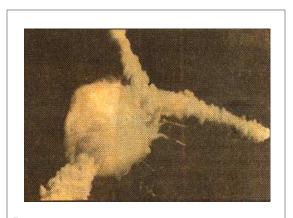
The death of those aboard the space shuttle Challenger was indeed tragic. History bears testimony to man's sacrifices from sea exploration to space travel. But what is man' ultimate aim and is he guided by any moral principle?

Bruce Murray, Professor of Planetary Science, (in an interview on Further Encounter, Voice of America, on February 2 this year) said man's ultimate objective is Mars.

The entire programme with other leading scientists and personalities excluded any mention of God. Is not God our ultimate aim and is His moral principle of enjoining good and forbidding evil most sound and logical?

Space travel is one of God's blessings to man and one of the ways of growing closer to Him and to shorten the highways of communication between man and man.

The untimely death of the space shuttle crew must not deter us. Allowance should also be made for future casualties as we learn to swim across minute fraction of space as we become more and more bewitched by God's grandeur.



**☐** Challenger disintegrates minutes after blast-off

Let us not divorce God from, or consider Him remote in our space exploration, nor to be sceptical of man's future conquest.

Sayed Iqbal Mohamed Durban