

IBN SINA'S CONCEPTION OF NATURE CHANGE AND GENERATION



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SUMMARY / ABSTRACT

Ibn Sina strongly maintains the division of cosmic sphere into heaven and earth, a division based on the observation that heavenly phenomena differ significantly from earthly ones. For whereas the celestial bodies generally appear to be unchanged---their cyclical motion displaying order and harmony, uniformity and regularity, permanence and continuity, reflected as it is in the alternations of day and night, the cycle of seasons, etc., the terrestrial things are constantly changing, coming to be and passing away. This paper is will (1) look into Ibn Sina's understanding of 'nature', and then (2) examine his account of change in general, and finally (3) consider his explanation of substantial change, or how individual things are generated or come into being.