بسم الله الرحمن الرحیم

Khutba 2

***Bismillah in Our Lives***

وَ بِهِ نَسْتَعِينُ

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ وَ الصَّلَاةُ وَ السَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَ عَلَى آلِهِ وَ صَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ

***Bismillah*** (In the Name of Allah) is a blessed word. It is the head of all good things. To grasp the importance of ***Bismillah*** it is sufficient to at the beginning of each Surah of the Qur’an, all worthwhile books and good actions. A most decisive argument for this phrase’s worth is the comment of the foremost Islamic scholars like Imam ash-Shafi‘i: *“Although the Basmalah is a single verse, it was revealed 114 times in the Qur’an.”*

This blessed ***Bismillah*** (In the Name of Allah), is one of the symbols of Islam. Muslims begin every good deed, and individual daily actions, that are not religiously forbidden, such as entering one’s workplace, or eating, by uttering it. All things and beings come to life and survive through it. The particle ***bi***- here means both in and with, so that everything, dependent on the laws of the All-Merciful, does whatever it does in and with His Name. A minute seed under the earth germinates and pushes through soil and stone to grow into the sunlight, depending on the laws of the All-Merciful, and begging the (special) compassion of the All-Compassionate. Human beings, favored with free will, should always do good and do so in Allah’s Name and to please Him, beginning the effort in and with the Name of Allah.

According to some scholars, the *Basmalah* is counted as the first verse of every Qur’ānic sūrah (chapter) except the ninth. According to the Hanafī school of Law, it is a verse, but not counted as the first verse of every sūrah. It is the first verse of Sūrah al-Fātihah, the opening sūrah of the Qur’ān, and it is written before every sūrah because of its importance and its being blessed, and so as to separate the sūrahs from each other. It is, in any case, a rope of light extending from the Supreme Throne of Allah to the hearts of people. Whoever holds fast to it in awareness of its meaning and is enlightened by it can rise to the highest point of human perfection.

***Bismillah*** is an inexhaustible **strength**, it is an unending source of **bounty**!

It has been reported that Rasulullah (ﷺ) said:

«كُلُّ أَمْرٍ ذِي بَالٍ لَا يُبْدَأُ فِيهِ بِبِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ أَقْطَعُ». [[1]](#endnote-1)

“Any matter of importance which is not begun with **Bismillahirrahmanirrahim** remains defective.”

In another narration it is said:

«كُلُّ أَمْرٍ ذِي بَالٍ، لَا يُبْدَأُ فِيهِ بِالْحَمْدِ، أَقْطَعُ».[[2]](#endnote-2)

“Any matter of importance which is not begun with **Alhamdulillah [**All praise and gratitude are for Allah**]** remains defective.” [Ibn Majah]

Also,

«كُلُّ كَلاَمٍ أَوْ أَمْرٍ ذِى بَالٍ لَا يُفْتَحُ بِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ فَهُوَ أَبْتَرُ أَوْ قَالَ أَقْطَعُ».[[3]](#endnote-3)

“Any speech, or any matter of importance which is not opened with with the remembrance of Allah (azza wa jal) remains defective or cut off.” [Musnad Ahmad]

In these narrations, we are recommended to starts our good deeds with ***Bismillahirrahmanirrahim***, or ***Alhamdulillah*** and both these phrases constitute the remembrance of Allah. To prevent the confusion, our early predecessors used to combine both. They had the habit of starting with:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ اَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

And as such, they would fulfil the command and its decree about ***Basmalah*** and also command about ***Alhamdulillah***…

In the hadith, the word أَبْتَرُ means being cut-off of [posterity or progeny]. Which means any good thing that’s not been started in the name of Allah is ultimately doomed to be defective, fruitless and be deprived of blessings. Thus, in order to gain the ***barakah*** – the blessings **dear Muslims**, we must start every good deed with ***Bismillah***. A deeds that’s been started with Bismillah will continue with its fruits in the afterlife. Even if sometimes we may not get worldly results, nevertheless their ***barakah*** - blessings will continue in the afterlife.

**Respected Muslims!**

Sometimes we complain about the time and how fast it goes. We find ourselves of not completing our tasks throughout the day. So, we blame the time…

Sometimes we complain about our income and earnings of not being enough. There are people who earn more, yet not able to pay off their dept. So, the low incomes are blamed for…

Among other reasons for these two problems, the common missing ingredient is the ***Barakah*** – the blessings of Allah in them. Had we have the ***barakah*** in time, we would have done a lot of good deeds beneficial for this and the next world… had we have the ***barakah*** in our income, no matter how insufficient it may seem, it would have been enough get by in the boundary of Halal…

In the Hadith by Imam Bukhari:

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ ـ رضى الله عنه ـ أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صلى الله عليه وسلم قَالَ «يَعْقِدُ الشَّيْطَانُ عَلَى قَافِيَةِ رَأْسِ أَحَدِكُمْ إِذَا هُوَ نَامَ ثَلاَثَ عُقَدٍ، يَضْرِبُ كُلَّ عُقْدَةٍ عَلَيْكَ لَيْلٌ طَوِيلٌ فَارْقُدْ، فَإِنِ اسْتَيْقَظَ فَذَكَرَ اللَّهَ انْحَلَّتْ عُقْدَةٌ، فَإِنْ تَوَضَّأَ انْحَلَّتْ عُقْدَةٌ، فَإِنْ صَلَّى انْحَلَّتْ عُقْدَةٌ فَأَصْبَحَ نَشِيطًا طَيِّبَ النَّفْسِ، وَإِلاَّ أَصْبَحَ خَبِيثَ النَّفْسِ كَسْلاَنَ»‏‏.‏[[4]](#endnote-4)

Narrated Abu Huraira:

Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) said, "Satan puts three knots at the back of the head of any of you if he is asleep. On every knot he reads and exhales the following words, 'The night is long, so stay asleep.' When one wakes up and **remembers Allah**, one knot is undone; and when one performs ablution, the second knot is undone, and when one prays the third knot is undone and one gets up energetic with a good heart in the morning; otherwise one gets up lazy and with a mischievous heart."

As can clearly be seen from this Hadith, the remembrance of Allah brings about barakah – the blessings throughout the day.

Wcan inshallah get the *Barakah* through Bismillah… With Bismillah, one draws the Mercy of Allah to himself, to his time, to his work. It is with *Bismillah* one inshallah gets closer to Allah… and to His Rahmah.

Yes, the phrase ***Bismillah*** is a treasure so blessed that our infinite impotence and poverty bind us to an infinite power and mercy; it makes our impotence and poverty a most acceptable intercessor at the Court of ***al-Qadîr al-Rahîm*** *–*One All-Powerful and Compassionate.

Dear Brothers, once again let’s make it a blissful habit: *To Give in the name of Allah, take in the name of Allah, begin in the name of Allah, and act in the name of Allah.*

Wassalam!

**References**

Çizgimizi Hecelerken/Besmelesiz ve hamdelesiz işler neticesizdir, M. F. Gulen

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1. Hadith by خطيب البغدادي [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. Hadith by ابن ماجه [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. Hadith by الإمام أحمد بن حنبل [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. Hadith of صحيح البخاري [↑](#endnote-ref-4)