



VIRTUES AND LAWS PERTAINING TO BISMILLAAH

**THIS CONCISE TREATISE CONSISTS OF LAWS
RELATING TO BISMILLAAHIR RAHMAANIR RAHEEM
AND A FEW OF ITS BENEFITS**

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بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ

BISMILLA AH – AN EXAMPLE OF THE EASE AND PRACTICALITY OF ISLAM

Islam has come with an easy and practical Shari'ah. Its effort is limited but its reward is great. There are many amazing examples of a small action carrying great rewards.

Its Salaah is not confined to a Masjid, but can be performed in any house and on any piece of land. It does not instruct one to give up this world for the purpose of Ibaadat (worship), but gives such panaceas, that convert worldly matters into Deen too. A person can be involved in worldly pursuits but still becomes and remains a Zaakir Shaaghil and Waasil bi Haq. (One who is constantly making Zikr and is linked to Allah ﷻ.)

The practical and verbal teachings of Rasulullah ﷺ are such that they are a means of guidance for every action and movement. For every occasion and place he has taught us concise Du'aas which does not become a hindrance and an obstacle in ones work, nor does it require great effort. By practicing on these small things the person becomes one who is permanently in the remembrance of Allah.

The added benefit is that these Du'aas consists of asking for the betterment of both Deen and Dunyaa, resulting in the doors of goodness opening for both. These Du'aas have been recorded in 'Munaajaat e Maqbool'. (*Munaajaat e Maqbool is a book on Du'aas extracted from Qur'aan and Hadeeth by Hadhrat Moulana Ashraf Ali Saheb Thanwi Rahmatullaahi Alayh. It is divided into seven sections, at least one section to be recited daily, resulting in the completion of the entire collection weekly.*)

The teachings of Islam is a clear-cut proof of its (Islam's) truthfulness, for, the purpose of a religion is to link the slave with the Master, the creation with the Creator, and these teachings of Islam has made every action, every movement and every statement a means of the remembrance of Allah ﷻ. These teachings have been constituted in such a way that one doesn't even realize that an action of Deen is being done and he is achieving the success of his Deen.

From among these teachings is to begin every action with Bismillaah.

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

Bismillaahir Rahmaanir Raheem is such a concise sentence that the reader experiences no difficulty in reading it, nor does its recital take up a great amount of time, but its benefits are far reaching, powerful and consists of both Deeni and worldly benefits.

BISMILLAH AT THE TIME OF EATING

When a Mu'min (believer) recites Bismillaah before eating, he implies the following:

He hardly played any role in the creation of the morsel of food that he holds in his hand. The skies, the earth, the planets and the natural forces worked for months so that a single seed sprouts into a plant. Thereafter thousands of animals and humans protected and nurtured it until it became fit for consumption. All this is an indication of a hidden force. Humans do not have the control and authority over these natural forces.

WHEN DRINKING WATER

In the same vein, when Bismillaah is recited before drinking water, the following is implied:

He has come to realize that the Almighty has transformed seawater to vapour, made it rise, form clouds and natural forces turned the

salty seawater into sweet water. Thereafter, according to need, He made it rain and saturated the farms, trees and plants. The reservoirs and ponds were filled for use for a limited period.

Also, a huge amount of this water is stored on mountain peaks in an amazing natural waterworks system requiring no water tanks and there is no possibility of the water becoming contaminated, nor is there a need to add chemicals to this water. In fact, it is a frozen mass of water preserved on the mountaintops. From there it gradually melts and flows down the mountains through ‘natural pipelines’ that are free from the harmful effects of metal pipelines. Rather, the natural essences, sulphur, etc, of the earth gathers in this water which are necessary to purify it. This naturally purified and harmless water can now be taken out by digging (wells, etc). If today’s ‘civilized’ human ponders over this before gulping down water from crystal glasses, he will spontaneously say:

فَتَبَارَكَ اللهُ أَحْسَنُ الْخَالِقِينَ ،

SO BLESSED BE ALLAH, THE BEST OF CREATORS.

To make these realities present in our minds, Rasulullah ﷺ taught us practically and verbally to recite Bismillaah before drinking and eating and to recite Alhamdu Lillaah when finishing, to show our gratitude (Shukr) to that Being who made food and drink pass through all these amazing stages and finally reach us.

WHEN MOUNTING A CONVEYANCE

When a Mu’min mounts a conveyance he implies the following: He acknowledges that this conveyance is not a result of his own creation nor was it in his power to control or use it in varying conditions such as in the sun or shade, on wet and dry land. This is

the work of a Perfect Power who has given me control over things that He has created.

Ask yourself the following questions: Am I stronger or the horse that I bridle and sit upon? How is it possible that I mount it and it doesn't throw me off and sit upon me? Why does it open its mouth when I want to bridle it? After bridling it, how do I make it run in any direction I want it to?

If one really ponders one will come to realize that this subjugation is only through Allah the Master and Creator who has enslaved this animal to you. This is the meaning of this verse of the Qur'aan:

وَذَلَّلْنَاهَا لَهُمْ فَمِنْهَا رَكُوبُهُمْ وَمِنْهَا يَأْكُلُونَ ،

AND WE HAVE SUBDUED THEM (ANIMALS) UNTO THEM (MAN) SO THAT SOME OF THEM THEY HAVE FOR RIDING AND SOME THEY EAT. (Surah Yaaseen)

A question may arise in the minds of today's 'enlightened' ones that these laws apply to animals used for transport and not to the vehicles, planes, etc. that we use today which have been created by us? These things belong to us! Thus, Bismillaah and Alhamdu Lillaah have no part in them!

Again, if one ponders and asks those arrogant scientifically affected minds as to what did they create from the steel, wood, aluminium and other metals used in those objects? Do you have the power to create them? Did you create the components used to produce the electricity and steam to bring these objects into motion? Is it in your power to create them? After asking these questions their eyes will open and will realize that their claims of power and creation were all false and deceitful. The One True Being has created all the components used in these objects. Therefore these things will also

be used by beginning with His name and ended with gratitude (Shukr) unto Him.

To bring these realities to the fore, Rasulallah ﷺ has taught us to recite:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ مَجْرَهَا وَمُرْسَاهَا إِنَّ رَبِّي لَغَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH IS ITS MOVING AND ITS STOPPING. MOST CERTAINLY MY LORD IS OFT FORGIVING, MOST MERCIFUL.

WHEN SLEEPING

Rasulallah ﷺ also taught us that when we lie down to sleep then say:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ رَبِّي وَضَعْتُ جَنْبِي ،

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH MY LORD I PLACE MY SIDE (ON THE BED FOR SLEEPING)

The hidden wisdom in this is that man comes to realize that these means of rest, becoming disengaged from all concerns and lying down is not in his control but is the favour of the Lord of the worlds. Also, bringing about sleep is not in mans control nor can he summons it. It is the flawless wisdom of Allah ﷻ that when night approaches every animal and man seeks his place of rest. When reaching there, sleep starts overpowering him. The day's tiredness is removed through sleep. This also is an amazing arrangement of the Divine system that the entire creation sleeps at the same time. If every man and animal had different times of sleeping, the noise and movement of those awake would have deprived those trying to sleep. A mundane harm of one group sleeping then awakening and then the other sleeping when the first group awakes is that these

two groups would never be able to transact with each other on account of them never meeting! How then would assistance be rendered to each other, which is a necessity for worldly betterment? In essence, a huge door of knowledge (Ma'rifat) is unveiled by reciting Bismillaah before sleeping.

WHEN GOING TO TOILET

Recital of Bismillaah before going to toilet teaches us that to transform the consumed food into part of the body and the rest into waste is not the work of man. This happens only through the wisdom and power of Allah ﷻ.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF BISMILLAAH

There is great emphasis on reciting Bismillaah before Wudhu. According to some Imaams (learned jurists), Wudhu without Bismillaah is not valid.

Also, every Surah (chapter) in the Qur'aan commences with Bismillaah.

The Qur'aan begins with Bismillaah.

In Durre Manthoor a narration is recorded from Daare Qutni (a Hadeeth book) on the authority of Sayyidina ibni Umar ؓ that Rasulullah ﷺ said: Whenever Jibra'eel Ameen ؑ came to me with Wahi (revelation), he would recite Bismillaah.

It is the teaching of Islam to commence every action with Bismillaah. Beginning and ending every action with the name of Allah ﷻ will make one a Zaakir and an Aarif (one who remembers and recognizes Allah) even though one is immersed in work. This will bring thousands of Barakaat (blessings) and good results.

Therefore Rasulullah ﷺ has said:

كُلُّ أَمْرٍ ذِي بَالٍ لَمْ يُبْدَأْ بِبِسْمِ اللَّهِ فَهُوَ أَقْطَعُ

ANY IMPORTANT WORK NOT STARTED WITH
BISMILLAAH IS VOID OF BLESSINGS.

In the Tafseer (commentary) of the following words of the
Qur'aan:

وَالزَّمَهُمْ كَلِمَةَ التَّقْوَىٰ ،

AND HE MADE THEM STICK TO 'KALIMATUT TAQWAA'
i.e. THE WORD OF PIETY. (Surah Fath)

Imaam Zuhri (Rahmatullaahi Alayh) has said that Bismillaah is
meant by the words 'Kalimatut Taqwaa' and that Allah ﷻ has
made this essential upon the Sahaabah Kiraam ﷺ and upon all the
Muslims. (Risaalah Qantarrah – Moulana Lukhnowi)

A LAMENTABLE INDIFFERENCE

The world has changed, modern sciences have developed and new
social values have emerged, but these things have come from
people who have no idea of their Master. So why would any of
their actions commence with Bismillaah? Their writings, speeches
and everything are bereft of this Noor (splendour) and Barkat
(blessings). It is unfortunate that while the Muslims have been
following them in other matters, they have also aped them in this
criminal offence (of abandoning the recital of Bismillaah). To
begin writing and speech with Bismillaah and the Sunnah Khutbah
is considered to be old fashioned, outdated and a 'molvi thing'.
And for them to follow the molvis is the greatest crime!

What a great loss that they have deprived themselves of this small yet valuable and effortless action.

إِنَّا لِلّٰهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ ،

The purpose of this concise treatise is to remove this indifference and to remind them that if they are not doing anything else then at least they should not deprive themselves of the blessings of this effortless action.

LAWS REGARDING BISMILLAAH

1. According to many Sahaabah ﷺ, Taabi'een and jurists, Bismillaahir Rahmaanir Raheem is an independent verse of the Qur'aan. Some are of the opinion that besides it being a part of Surah Naml, it is not an independent verse but it has been revealed many times as a means of separation between Surahs.

Thus, as a precaution, the jurists have ruled that the laws of respect, etc. applying to the verses of the Qur'aan, e.g. it is not permissible to touch the verses of the Qur'aan without Wudhu, will apply to Bismillaahir Rahmaanir Raheem too. All laws applying to Qur'aanic verses will apply to Bismillaahir Rahmaanir Raheem. But if someone recites only Bismillaah in Salaah and leaves out the Qiraa'at, the Salaah will not be valid. (Qantarrah on the authority of Mujtabaa and Muheet)

2. The jurists have clearly explained that it is Sunnah Mu'akkadah to complete the entire Qur'aan in Taraaweeh Salaah at least once. Even if one verse is left out, the Sunnah will not be fulfilled. Therefore, taking both opinions (mentioned above) into consideration, the Imaam should during the entire month (of Ramadhaan) recite Bismillaahir Rahmaanir Raheem aloud at least once so that the Muqtadis (followers behind the Imaam) also hear it and their hearing of the Qur'aan is also complete.

3. To recite Bismillaah at the beginning of Surah Faatihah in every Rakaa't is Waajib (compulsory) according to Imaam Abu Yusuf, Imaam Mohammed and many other Imaams. According to Imaam Abu Haneefah it is Sunnah. (رحمهم الله تعالى) . (Sharh Munyah)

Therefore, recite Bismillaah before Surah Faatihah in every Rakaa't. Many people are neglectful of this.

4. To recite Bismillaah after Surah Faatihah before a Surah (in Salaah) is not Sunnah according to Imaam Abu Haneefah, therefore better to leave out. According to Imaam Mohammed it is better to leave it out in the 'Jahri' Salaahs (those Salaah in which the Qiraa't is recited audibly) and better to read it in the 'Sirri' Salaahs (those Salaah in which the Qiraa't is recited softly).

A FEW TRIED, TESTED AND PROVEN BENEFITS OF BISMILAAH

FOR EVERY DIFFICULTY AND NEED:

1. If a person recites Bismillaahir Rahmaanir Raheem twelve thousand times in the following manner:

- Recite it one thousand times and then Durood Shareef at least once. Thereafter make Du'aa for ones need.
- Recite it another thousand times, Durood Shareef at least once and again Du'aa for the need.
- Carry on in this way until reaching twelve thousand then Inshaa Allah every difficulty will become easy and every need will be fulfilled.

2. Bismillaah in numerical form is 786. Whoever recites Bismillaahir Rahmaanir Raheem the same amount of times (786 times) for seven days and makes Du'aa for a particular purpose, Inshaa Allah that purpose will be realized.

TO WIN THE HEARTS OF PEOPLE:

The person who writes Bismillaah six hundred times and keeps it on him will be respected and honoured. No one will be able to ill treat him.

PROTECTION FROM CALAMITIES:

The person who on the first of Muharram writes on a paper one hundred times Bismillaahir Rahmaanir Raheem and keeps it on him will be protected from all types of calamities and difficulties. This is tested and proven.

PROTECTION FROM THEFT AND THE EFFECTS OF SHAYTAAN:

If recited twenty-one times before sleeping, one will be protected from theft, the effects of Shaytaan and a sudden death.

PREVALANCE OVER THE OPPRESSOR:

If recited fifty times in front of an oppressor, Allah ﷻ will make him (the oppressor) to be subdued and make you overcome him.

FOR INTELLIGENCE AND MEMORY:

Recite it 786 times, blow in water and drink this water at the time of sunrise. Intelligence will be increased and the memory will be improved.

FOR INCREASE IN AFFECTION:

Recite it 786 times, blow in water and give that person to drink whose affection is required. That persons love and affection for one will be increased. It is forbidden to use this for illicit love.

PROTECTION OF OFFSPRING:

A woman whose children do not survive should write Bismillaahir Rahmaanir Raheem sixty-one times, make a Ta'weez and keep it on herself. The children will be protected. This is also tested and proven.

PROTECTION OF FARMS AND FOR BARKAT:

Write it one hundred times on a paper and bury it on the farm. The farm will be protected from all calamities and there will be Barkat in it.

AGAINST THOSE ENDOWED WITH POWER:

Write Bismillaahir Rahmaanir Raheem five hundred times on a paper. Thereafter recite it one hundred and fifty times and blow on the same paper. Make a Ta'weez of it and keep it on oneself. Those endowed with power (rulers, etc.) will become kind and merciful on you and you will be protected from harm of the oppressors.

FOR PAIN:

Write it twenty-one times on a paper and hang it on the neck of the person who has pain or tie it on the head for the removal of a headache.

The benefits and blessings of Bismillaah are numerous. Just a few of them have been recorded here.

وَ اللهُ الْمُسْتَعَانَ ، وَعَلَيْهِ التُّكْلَانِ ،
رَبَّنَا تَقَبَّلْ مِنَّا ، إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ ،
وَ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ الْكَرِيمِ ،
وَ أٰلِهِ وَ صَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ ،

مَشَتْ