

BASMALA: THE DOOR TO AN ABUNDANCE OF DIVINE BLESSINGS

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
 وَقَالَ ارْكَبُوا فِيهَا بِسْمِ اللَّهِ مَجْرِيهَا وَمُرسِيهَا
 إِنَّ رَبِّي لَغَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ
 وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:
 كُلُّ كَلَامٍ أَوْ أَمْرٍ ذِي بَالٍ لَا يُفْتَحُ بِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ
 عَزَّ وَجَلَّ فَهُوَ أَبْتَرُ.

Dear Muslims,

Our Prophet (saw), the mercy to the worlds, says, “Every important word or matter that does not begin with the remembrance of Allah is considered incomplete.”ⁱ and advises us to begin every word and every deed with the Basmala.

Dear Believers!

The invitation of all prophets began with the Basmala. The Prophet Nuh (as) said, “Board it! In the Name of Allah it will sail and cast anchor. Surely my Lord is All-Forgiving, Most Merciful.”ⁱⁱ, and called the believers to the ship of salvation. The Prophet Sulayman (as) invited people to tawhid with the Basmala.ⁱⁱⁱ The Messenger of Allah (saw) became the addressee of the first revelation in the Name of Allah through the commandment, “Read, o Prophet, in the Name of your Lord Who created.”^{iv}

Dear Muslims!

The Basmala is not just a word chanted by the tongue and hung on the walls on ornate

plates. The Basmala is the intention to live to earn the pleasure of Allah (SWT) in every breath. It is the determination to be honest in word and deed, to compete in goodness and kindness, and to avoid all kinds of haram and evil. It is to say, “O Lord! I want to do everything with Your help and permission and start everything with the remembrance of Your Name alone.”

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

The believer adopts the Basmala, the common dhikr of the world of existence, as the norm in every moment of their life. They find peace in the remembrance of the name of Allah, Who is al-Rahman and al-Rahim. They make their lives meaningful and seek a cure for their troubles by living with His name in their minds and hearts. Through His name, they relieve their distress. The believer knows that every word that begins with the Basmala becomes auspicious. Every deed that begins with the Basmala becomes blessed. Every path taken by Basmala becomes the one on the right path.

Dear Muslims!

The Basmala is the key to the door to mercy and peace in this world and the Hereafter. Then, may all doors of love and mercy open with the Basmala. May feelings of hatred and enmity come to an end. May our words become reliable with the Basmala. May our deeds be blessed with the Basmala. May our whole life find meaning with the Basmala.

ⁱ Ibn Hanbal, II, 360.ⁱⁱ Hud, 11/41.ⁱⁱⁱ Naml, 27/30.^{iv} 'Alaq, 96/1.