

## Lesson-02: Begin with the Name of Allah

### Lesson Outcomes

- How to get the blessings of Allah?
- What is the correct way to start any work?
- Which two important attributes of Allah are mentioned in this lesson?

Now we shall learn Surah-Al-Fatihah. There are 114 Surahs (chapters) in the Qur'an. Surah-Al-Fatihah is the first chapter which is why it is called "Fatihah". The word Al-Fatihah means 'the opener'.

### Recitation and Explanation

Recite with Tajweed and feelings, the way the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم used to recite:

1 الرَّحِيمِ	الرَّحْمَنِ	اللَّهُ	بِسْمِ
the Most Merciful.	the Most Gracious,	(of) Allah,	In the name
In the name of Allah, the most Gracious, the most Merciful.			

- We begin with the name of Allah.
- بِسْمِ اللَّهِ: Just as every person or thing has a name, likewise our God has a personal name "الله".
- الرَّحْمَنِ means the most Gracious. الرَّحْمَنِ loves us more than our parent, or anybody else. This attribute shows that Allah's care and kindness is intense and of great magnitude. It is like a heavy rain of mercy.
- الرَّحِيمِ: He is the most Merciful. This attribute shows that Allah's kindness and care is continuous and not just momentary.

**Story:** Once Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم was sitting and a man was having his meal. The man did not say بِسْمِ اللَّهِ before eating. When he picked up his last morsel, he said- **بِسْمِ اللَّهِ أَوْلَهُ وَآخِرُهُ**. Seeing this, Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم smiled at him and told him that Shaitan was continuously eating with him, but as soon as he said بِسْمِ اللَّهِ Shaitan threw-up. [Abu Dawood]

**Hadith:** Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم said: A work that is not begun in the name of Allah will be defective and incomplete. [Musnad Ahmad]

### Tadabbur – Study, Imagine, and Feel

- Imagine: If something goes wrong and instead of being angry or cursing someone, you say بِسْمِ اللَّهِ and Shaitan becomes smaller than even a fly.
- Feel comfortable that if you need help for a short or a long term, Allah is Ar-Rahman and Ar-Raheem. He is always there to help us.
- Rejoice in conveying this message of Allah to others.

## Tadhakkur – Du'aa, Evaluate, and Plan

- Think of five tasks in which you seek Allah's help by saying بِسْمِ اللَّهِ.
- Allah is الرَّحْمَن and الرَّحِيم. He favors those who are kind to others. Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: "مَنْ لَا يَرْحَمُ لَا يُرْحَمُ" He who does not show mercy to others will not be shown mercy (by Allah). [Bukhari]. Therefore, we should show mercy to everyone, take care of their pleasure as far as possible, so that Allah is also merciful to us.

**Habit:** InshaAllah I shall begin every task with بِسْمِ اللَّهِ.

### PRACTICE QUESTIONS

1. What is the correct way to begin a work?
2. Which two important attributes of Allah are mentioned in this lesson?
3. How to get the blessings of Allah?
4. What do you mean by blessings of Allah?
5. List out 10 daily tasks that you should start with Bismillah.