

## IN THE NAME OF ALLAH THE BENEFICIENT THE MERCIFUL

For those of us looking to reach the ultimate peak in our personal and professional lives, let us try beginning each act, deed, or intention with bismillah and see the immediate difference it brings. *Beginning* our actions by invoking the name of Allah Subhanahu wa Ta'ala, is a blessing that has been bestowed upon our Ummah by our Creator, Most High.

Invoking Allah's Subhanahu wa Ta'ala name with a sense of sincerity and reliance will help in warding away Shaytan, man's biggest enemy, whom we have been ordered to seek constant refuge from. Shaytan can very easily place a wrong intention in our hearts, change our way of thinking and mould our thoughts according to his evil plots, making us lose out on the numerous benefits and advantages that we could have easily achieved had we started our work by invoking Allah Subhanahu wa Ta'ala's name. *Cutting out evil is one of the most effective ways to stay focused and concentrate on the task ahead.* 

Reciting 'Bismillah' before performing any action will immediately make us conscious and ponder over whether the deed/action want to do is righteous or not, sincere or not. This is a hugely effective method to prevent oneself from committing sins irrespective of how big or 'small' the sin may be.

Beginning in the Name of Allah Subhanahu wa Ta'ala opens up the doors of mercy and blessings from our Lord as it is pleasing that we, His slaves, remember Him before performing an action as mentioned in the Hadith...

كل أمر ذي بال لا يبدأ فيه ببسم الله الرحمن الرحيم فهو أبتر

Ever Matter of Importance Which Is Not Begun With Bismillah Is Void of Blessing

## An Amazing Story Of A Jewish Girl

It is mentioned in Lam'aate Soofiyyah that a pious man was once lecturing on the virtues of "Bismillahir Rahman nir Raheem". A Jewish girl was also listening to his lecture. She was so moved by the lecture that she accepted Islam. Now, whenever she did anything she always said "Bismillahir Rahman nir Raheem" first. When her father, who was the king's minister, discovered that she had embraced Islam, he became very upset. He feared that the people would look down upon him. So, he began threatening her in the hope that she would forsake Islam. But she would not. Finally, he decided, the only solution was to kill her.

Thus, he thought of a plan: he gave her the ring which was used for sealing letters and documents in the king's court. He said to her: "Keep it until I ask for it."

Saying "Bismillahir Rahman nir Raheem" she took it and put it into her pocket.'

That night the father tip-toed into her room and stole the ring and flung it into the river. That would give the king all the reason to hang her.

The following day a fisherman came along to the minister and gave him a fish as a gift. The minister took it and gave it to his daughter to prepare it. She read bismillah and opened the stomach to clean the fish. Subhanallah, she found the ring. She was shocked! For it looked exactly like the ring her father had given her! She searched for the ring in her pocket but couldn't find it. She read "Bismillahir Rahman nir Raheem" and put the ring back into her pocket.

She then prepared the fish and presented it to her father. After he had his meal, he asked for the ring. She said "Bismillahir Rahman nir Raheem" and produced it from her pocket. The father was shocked for he had thrown it into the river! How could she take it out from her pocket!

He then told her what he had done and enquired where the ring came from. She told him she found it from the fish's stomach.

Witnessing the barakah(blessing) of Bismillah he accepted Islam straightaway.