

Summarised Friday Sermon

02 JANUARY 2009

THE VALUE of “BISMILLAH HIRRAHMAN NIRRAHIM “ in OUR LIVES

- As we start this new year, let us reflect on this small prayer that we say before the beginning of all our actions and efforts. In this prayer, we say “In the name of Allah”. What does it mean when we do something in the name of Allah?
- First: It means that we only want to do something that will gain the blessings and pleasure (*ridha*) of Allah s.w.t. This also means we constantly think before we act.
- Second: Saying “Bismillah” means we seek Allah’s blessings and help in all that we do. This implies that we want to succeed in our act. We hope that the act will bring goodness, not only to ourselves, but also to others.
- Third: In this prayer, we invoke two names of Allah s.w.t. *Ar-Rahman* and *Ar-Rahim*. Although it is very difficult to translate exactly the meanings of these two names, but roughly, *Ar-Rahman* means Allah the Most Compassionate and *Ar-Rahim* means Allah the Most Merciful.
- Let us therefore begin this new year with a resounding and meaningful “*Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim*”. Let it mark the beginning of all our acts. Through it, we remember the purpose of all our deeds.



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Mosque without borders