

# **ALHAMDU LILLAHI RABBIL AALAMEEN** al- Kashani (AR)

**With the Name of, the Beneficent, the Merciful**

**All Praise and Thanks are for Allah the Lord of the Worlds.  
The Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful.  
The Master of the Day of Judgment.**

The book al-Tawhid records Hazrat Ali to have said,

God is the One on whom every creation depends.

Say Bismillah when you lose all hope for it means *I seek the help of God in all matters for there is none other that can be worshipped and the one who hears all.*

In another Hadith he has said,

Recite Bismillah and act upon it.

Imam Ridha (AS) is recorded in the book Ayyun to have said,

One of the names of God is *Samad* and this is worship. When he was asked the meaning of Samad he said, *It means signs*

The book Tawhid tells us that once a person asked Imam Ja'far Sadiq (AS):

O Son of the Holy Messenger, *what is the proof of the existence of God?*

The Imam answered,

“Have you ever ridden a boat?” He said, “Yes”. The Imam asked, “Was there a time when the boat was sinking and you did not know how to swim?” He said, “Yes” The Imam said, “Did your mind beseech someone who could save you?” He said, “Yes this was so” the Imam then said, “The savior you were praying to is God for He helps in all problems and hears all those in distress.”

We will discuss the explanation of Allah when we deal with Surah Ikhlas.

Hazrat Ali said that the word Allah was one of His great names and no one else should keep it.

The Imam said,

The word *Ar-Rahman* means the Sustainer who provides for all creatures and never suspends it despite their misdemeanors. The word *Ar-Rahim* means that He will reward His obedient servants in the hereafter and will stop all benefits and rewards for those who disbelieve. The sustenance of every living being is according to its life's requirement and what it deserves. His beneficence is common for all living things and includes all His grace.

God has said, **I created all things in the best of form and guided them, but His mercy is connected with the doings in this world and the next and is specific for the believers. the disbelievers are not included in it.**

This is to enjoin them towards the Truth and Islam. Imam said, *He is Merciful for His believers and their obedience. He is merciful to the disbelievers when they beseech Him so that they may realize.*

Imam Sadiq said, *Rahman is a special name with common application and Rahim is a common attribute, but for specific people.*

Hazrat Isa Ibn Maryam said, *He (God) is Beneficent in this world and is Merciful in the hereafter* and the same has been explained in the book Safi.

In Misqat the Messenger is reported to have said, *There are 100 shades of God's mercy and only one of it has been bestowed on this world the rest 99 are for the hereafter.*

Hazrat Ali said that Bismillah is a part of all Surahs and by itself is a complete ayah.

God has not revealed any book that has not begun with Bismillah.

Imam Sadiq said, *Every divine book begins with Bismillah and one should not avoid reading or reciting it because it protects you if you recite it.*

Hazrat has said, *Surah Hamd is also called Surah Fateha and is termed as "Saba Mathani" because we repeat each sentence when we recite it.*

Imam Reidha (AS) is quoted in Ayyashi to have said, *Allah is the word closest to His great names.* The same is quoted from Imam Sadiq in Tahzeeb.

Tafsir Qummi says that this Surah should be recited loudly and God has said that Bismillah should be said before beginning any Surah or verse.

In Khisal the Imam has said that *this ayah should be recited loudly in our daily prayers*. Imam Baqir has said that *it should recite before doing anything big or small so that it may be accepted*. Imam Sadiq in Kafi says that *it should be recited before doing or reciting even the smallest of things and should never be avoided*. In the Book *Tawhid* Imam has said, *Whoever amongst our Shias neglect this ayah has sinned*. Hazrat Ali has quoted the Messenger to have said, *Any work not begun with Bismillah is a work unfinished*.

### **Alhamdu Lillah**

All praise is for God because He has bestowed His grace upon us.

Ayyun al-Akhbar records that when Hazrat Ali was asked to explain this, he said, *God has bestowed unlimited grace upon us and you should say Alhamdu Lillah whenever you receive His grace*.

In Tafsir Safi Imam Sadiq is reported to have said, *You should say Allhamdu Lillah whenever you receive His grace to express your thanks*.

### **Rabbil Alamin**

In Ayyun al-Akhbar the Imam said, *God is the Lord Master of all creations, mankind and animals, and He provides sustenance to all of them whether they know it or don't. He preserves the natural wealth on this earth and protects all that is there. He protects the earth from the heavens coming down on it and so saves it from destruction*.

Ar-Rahman and Ar-Rahim is chanted so that the attributes of God are evident in the praise.

### **The Master of the Day of Judgment**

The Imam has explained that God will be the sole authority on the Day of Judgment and it is He who issues the decrees on mankind. It has also been read as "Malik Yawmaddin" as Imam Sadiq is quoted in Ayyashi. The Imam explained that the Apostle of God said. The person who follows his desires will be humiliated on the Day of Judgment for he is naive in following his lust and greed and then asks and expects help from God.

A second Hadith says, *Analyze your self before you are critically judged, weigh your belief and desires before you are weighed*.

I say that the point in both these Hadiths is that we have to critically assess our deeds so that we do not despair in the hereafter. This is more agreeable to an intelligent person.