### **Before Eating**



Bis-mil-lāh

(In the Name of Allāh)<sup>1</sup>

#### The text of the Hadeeth:

**The Prophet** (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) **said:** "Whenever one of you eats his food, then he must say: 'Bis-mil-lāh' (In the Name of Allāh). If he forgets to say this in the beginning, then he must say: 'Bis-mil-lāh, fee aw-wa-li-hee wa ā-khi-ri-hee' (In the Name of Allāh, in the beginning and the end)."<sup>2</sup>

This <u>Hadeeth</u> indicates that the time for mentioning the Name of Allāh is *before* beginning to eat. However, if one forgets to mention it at this point, it will fulfill the obligation if he mentions it *while* he is still eating, using the added words mentioned in this Hadeeth:



Bis-mil-lāh, fee aw-wa-li-hee wa ā-khi-ri-hee.

(In the Name of Allāh, in the beginning and the end)

#### **Explanation of the Hadeeth:**

The meaning of the statement of the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam): "Bis-mil-lāh" is: In the Name of Allāh, i.e., with His blessings and permission *I eat this food*, with *gratitude* and *thanks* to Him, *Ar-Razzāq* (the Provider)!

Allāh, the Most High, said in the Qur'ān:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Fortress of the Muslim, no. 178.

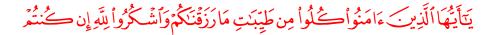
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Reported by Abu Dāwood, no. 3767, Ibn Mājah, no. 3264 and at-Tirmidhee, no. 1858, from 'Ā'isha (may Allāh be pleased with her). Al-Albānee said that it is Saheeh (authentic) in Saheeh al-Jāmi', no. 380.

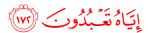
## يَتَأَيُّهَا ٱلنَّاسُ كُلُواْ مِمَّا فِي ٱلْأَرْضِ حَلَالًا طَيِّبًا وَلَا تَتَّبِعُواْ خُطُوَتِ ٱلشَّيَطَانِ \*

# إِنَّهُ وَلَكُمْ عَدُوُّ مُّبِينٌ اللهَ

"O mankind! Eat of that which is *lawful* and *good* on the earth, and follow not the footsteps of Satan. Verily, he is to you an open enemy." (2:168)

Allāh, the Most High, also said:





"O you who believe! Eat of the good things that We have provided you with, and be grateful to Allāh, if it is indeed He Whom you worship." (2:172)

It has been reported in a <u>Hadeeth</u> with a chain of narrators that <u>is not authentic</u>: "The Messenger of Allāh (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) was sitting while a man was eating and he <u>did not</u> mention the Name of Allāh until only a morsel of his food remained. So, when he raised his hand to his mouth (with that last bit of food), he said: "In the Name of Allāh, in the beginning and the end," (*Bis-mil-lāh, aw-wa-lahu wa-ā-khi-ra-hu*). The Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) laughed and said: "Satan was eating with him all along, and then when he mentioned the Name of Allāh, *Satan vomited all that was in his stomach*."

As for mentioning the Name of Allāh *while* someone is eating, in the case of someone who *forgot* to mention it in the beginning, this is confirmed in the Hadeeth of  $\bar{A}$ 'isha (may Allāh be pleased with her) mentioned previously. However, the mention of *Satan vomiting* when the man remembered to mention the Name of Allāh is *not authentic*.

[Taken from: 'Reflections Upon Selected Daily Supplications' - Abu Muhammad]

Reported by Abu Dāwood, no. 3768. Al-Hāfi<u>dh</u> Ibn <u>H</u>ajr al-'Asqalā-nee and others declared it to be **Weak** (Da'eef). See also Irwā' al-Ghaleel (7/27).