Connecting with the Qur'an: A Scale of Personal Progress

QUR'AN READING MADE EASY

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The Qur’an is the word of Almighty Al-Lah. It was revealed by Al-Lah to be a complete Guide for humanity in all its affairs.

The Qur’an, thus was revealed for the specific purposes of being (a) read, (b) understood and (c) practised. It is the duty of every Muslim to read the Qur’an, to understand the Qur’an and to endeavour his or her utmost to put the Qur’an into practice. There is no excuse whatsoever for the unfortunate state of ‘Qur’anic illiteracy’ that has come to prevail in many sections of the Muslim community today. Many Muslims today hardly know how to read the Qur’an correctly, even though the very first Revelation that was sent to the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wa sallam, was: ‘READ’.

An even smaller minority can really follow and understand the meaning of the Qur’an. By and large, ignorance has taken the place of knowledge in the Muslim community, even though Islam abhors ignorance and makes the seeking of knowledge a primary and most important duty of every believer. “Only those among His servants fear Al-Lah who possess knowledge”, says the Qur’an. “Acquiring knowledge is the duty of every Muslim man and woman”, says the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wa sallam. As if to drive home the importance of knowledge and education - education along truly Islamic lines, education which will bring humanity closer to Al-Lah and not turn him away from Al-Lah - Prophet Muhammad, sallallahu alaihi wa sallam, said, ‘The Excellence of a scholar over a person of devotion is like my own excellence over the least distinguished among you’. He further said that the finest form of Deen is that which is fully and properly understood. “One person with knowledge is harder for Shaitan to deal with than a thousand
people of devotion”, is another of his well-known sayings highlighting the absolute importance of knowledge and education.

While every Muslim must make an effort to acquire at least a certain basic understanding of the Aa-yaat of the Qur’an, an immediate beginning in this direction must be made by learning to read the Qur’an correctly, and, as far as possible, with due regard to proper pronunciation. The present ‘READER’ or PRIMER which is an English rendering, with additional comments and explanations, of the famous Qaa-i-dah ‘Yas-sar-nal Qur’an’ is an attempt to bring correct reading of the Qur’an within easy reach of the average English-speaking Muslim of our area.

This Primer should prove to be of invaluable help to you. Its simple self-teaching technique and systematic approach should enable you - with the help of Al-Laah - to learn to read the Qur’an correctly, and for yourself, in less than three months, if you will only spare a regular ONE HOUR for it every day .

“And indeed we have made the Qur’an easy to learn and to remember: Is there any one who will care to learn?” 54: 17, 54: 22, 54: 32 & 54: 40.

Surely Al-Laah guides those who show an inclination towards Him!
LESSON I

NUQTAH

Nuqtah or DOT plays an important role in identifying Arabic letters. Of the twenty-eight letters of the Arabic Alphabet, fifteen carry dots.

Here is how the Nuqtah (Dot) looks:

The number of dots varies from letter to letter. Please distinguish the number of Dots in the following exercise:

1

2

Please note that the Dots are sometimes placed above a certain line, and sometimes below it:

3

4

LESSON 2

A PHONETICAL GUIDE TO ARABIC ALPHABETS

The following hints are prepared to help you learn the correct names and sounds of the various letters. First, learn the name of each letter, and
It should be borne in mind that there is a world of difference between the English language and Arabic. While some of the Arabic letters and sounds have almost exact equivalents in English some others simply don’t. In all such cases the English letters used to denote them should be treated as mere approximations and not as exact equivalents. For example the letters (H) and (KH) are at best only approximations of (ٍ) and (ٌ) and by no means their exact counterparts. It is in cases such as these that the tapes will be most helpful.

In the following explanations the various vowels have been used to bring out certain clear and specific sound effects. They are as under:

(i) A: To sound like ‘A’ in ‘SAND’. A little long and slow, and the way an American would pronounce it if the vowel is used after a consonant.

(ii) ‘A’ to sound like ‘A’ in ‘BAN’ in BANANA: short and quick.

(iii) A: To sound like ‘A’ in ADVICE and the first ‘A’ in AMATEUR when used in a word like A-LIF.

(iv) AA: To sound like an elongated version of ‘A’ in SAND. The sound effect will be as if a couple of extra ‘A’s’ were added after the letter ‘S’ in ‘SAND’ or after the letter ‘B’ in ‘BAA’ - in the popular rhyme ‘BAA BAA BLACK SHEEP’.

(v) AAW: To give a special round and full sound like that of ‘O’ or ‘AW’ the way an Englishman would pronounce them.

(vi) ‘I’: To sound like ‘I’ in BIN, DIP etc.
(vii) ‘I’: To sound like ‘I’ in ‘FINE’ and DINE etc.
(viii) EE: To sound longer than ‘EA’ in TEAM or ‘EE’ in JEEP.
(ix) ‘U’: To sound like ‘U’ in ‘BUSH’, ‘PUSH’ and ‘BULL’.
(x) ‘OO’: To sound longer than ‘OO’ in ROOT, SHOOT etc.

a) **Short vowels. Really short and quick:-**
   - ‘A’: as in ‘BAN’ in BANANA
   - ‘I’: as in ‘DIP’
   - ‘U’: as in ‘BULL’

b) **Long vowels.** A peculiarity of the Arabic Language. Longer and
   Slower than their English counterparts:
   - ‘AA’: Longer and slower than ‘A’ in SAND.
   - ‘EE’: Longer and slower than ‘EE’ in JEEP and ‘EA’ in TEAM.
   - ‘OO’: Longer and slower than ‘OO’ in SOOT, LOOT and MOOT.

A-LIF ( ) Consists of two short syllables, with emphasis on the first one, namely ‘A’, which will be read as ‘A’ in ADVICE.

Roughly speaking, it serves the same functions and produces similar sounds as the English letter ‘A’.

BAA (BP) Consists of one long syllable. The sound is similar to the one produced by ‘BA’ in BAT, but slightly more prolonged. Its English equivalent is ‘B’.

TAA (ت) Has no equivalent sound in English, closely resembles the French ‘T’ in the expression ‘tete-a-tete’.
THAA ( ﺖ ) A peculiarly Arabic sound and letter. It has no English equivalent. The closest English sound one can think of is that of the ‘TH’ in THANK. To pronounce: gently push out the tongue between the teeth; try to say in a very soft manner ‘SAA’.

The resultant sound will be that of a very soft and gentle ‘TH’ in THANK.

JEEM ( ﺝ ) Rhymes with TEAM. A simple one-syllabic letter, produces a sound like that of ‘J’ in JEEP and ‘G’ in GENTLE.

HAA ( ﺞ ) Another peculiarly Arabic sound with hardly any English equivalent. To pronounce: Compress the larynx (the area around and just above the Adam’s Apple which contains the vocal chords) and breathe out ‘HA’ as in HABIT from the narrow space just above the back of the tongue and the end of the roof of the mouth (back palate) in a very gentle and soft manner.

KHAA ( ﺞ ) ‘KH’ is only an approximation of the sound produced by this letter. It is closer to German ‘CH’ in NATCH or BACH and French ‘R’ in TRES than to any English sound. The sound may be said to be produced as a result of friction between the back of the tongue and the end of the roof of the mouth (back palate) when a stream of air is strongly emitted through that space.

DAAL ( ﻰ ) French D may be considered an almost exact equivalent of this Arabic letter. It has no sound equivalent in English.
THAAL (ذ) Even though the English letter 'Z' has been used at times to denote it, the closest one comes to finding an English equivalent, for this letter, is the 'TH' in THAT.

To pronounce: push the tongue out between the teeth; and in a very gentle and soft manner say 'ZAA': you will get the sound of 'TH' in THAT.

RAAW (ر) To be pronounced in much the same way as an Englishman would pronounce the word 'RAW' except that the Arabic RAAW will have a fuller and stronger sound effect. To pronounce: spoon the tongue slightly; make the tip of the tongue quickly brush the area of the mouth just above the gums of the upper front teeth and say 'RAAW' (ر).

ZAA (ز) Clench your teeth firmly; say 'ZAA' with a strong and intense sound effect; and you will have the correct sound of this letter.

SEEN (س) Rhymes with KEEN and LEAN: Set your teeth firmly and pronounce the letter 'S' strongly and emphatically for the correct sound of this letter.

SHEEN (ش) Once again rhymes with LEAN. The sound is the same as 'SH' in SHEET.

SAAWD (ص) Another unfamiliar sound to the speakers of the English tongue. To obtain the right sound effect: Funnel the lips out as if to say 'O' or to whistle; press the full face of the tongue against the palate (roof of the mouth) and try to pronounce as fully and emphatically as you can. 'SAAWD' the sound has a distinct rolling, echoing effect. When uttering the letter try to imagine as if your mouth is half-full of some kind of liquid like water, syrup etc. The same
applies in varying measures to the next three letters
as well.

**DAAWD** (ﺽ) Described by some authors as the emphatic
counterpart of ‘D’. Truly speaking a sound most
unique and peculiar to Arabic. Arabic is sometimes
referred to as The ‘Language of the letter’ DAAWD.
For correct sound effect: funnel out lips, press the
full face of the tongue against the front palate; and try
to pronounce as fully and emphatically: ‘DAAWD’.

**TAAW** (ط) An emphatic version of the French ‘T’? Perhaps!
Funnel out lips; press full face of tongue against
front palate, (roof of the mouth) utter fully and
emphatically TAAW pronouncing the letter ‘T’ (as
a Frenchman would), and the resultant sound is the
closest to that of the Arabic TAAW. The sound of ‘O’
in TORN provides a clue to the sound of AAW in
TAAW.

**ZAAW** (ظ) Another sound difficult to represent or reproduce
in English. For closest sound effect: funnel out lips;
press full face of tongue against the palate; and say
ZAAW in an emphatic and full voice. Remember the
fluid in your mouth.

**AINE** (ع) Rhymes with FINE and LINE. A deep guttural with no
exact English sound equivalent. Sound produced by
compressing the muscles of the glottis (the opening
at the top of the wind-pipe close to the adam's apple)
and forcing the air through strongly. It is suggestive
of the sound produced when retching (vomitting)
or being strangled.

**GHINE** (غ) Rhyming once again with FINE, LINE and DINE.
Sound effect similar to that produced when gargling
with a mouthful of water especially with your head
thrown well back. It has no English equivalent. The letters ‘GH’ do not represent the exact sound of GHINE ( ﺔ) but are merely an approximation.

FAA ( ﻊ) Almost an exact English equivalent of the letter ‘F’. ‘FAA’ is pronounced in much the same way an American will pronounce ‘FA’ in FATHER, but the Arabic letter has a slightly more prolonged sound effect.

QAAWF ( ﻕ) Another deep guttural and another sound alien to the English Language. It is from the general area of the throat close to the glottis (opening at the top of the wind-pipe close to the adam’s apple). To get the right sound effect: make a great hollow out of the area close to the glottis and the lower part of the throat in such a way that the sound will produce a distinct ring and echo inside the mouth; and say QAAWF in as full and emphatic a manner as you can.

KAAF ( ﻊ) ‘K’ is an equivalent of this letter. Say ‘KAAF’ just like an American would say ‘CALF’.

LAAM ( ل) Same as ‘L’ in English. LAAM to be said the same way as LAMB but without the sound of ‘B’ at the end.

MEEM ( م) Like BEAM. Produces the same sound as that of the English letter ‘M’.

NOON ( ن) Rhymes with SOON. Same sound as that of the English ‘N’.

WA-A-W ( و) Same sound as that of the English ‘W’ in WATER. To get the name of the letter say ‘WA’ and then add the sound of another ‘W’. The ending should sound a little more pronounced than ‘W’ in HOW and NOW.
HAA ( ﬆ ) An emphatic and forceful version of the English ‘H’. Pronounced like ‘HA’ in HABIT and HAVE but with a longer and stronger sound effect.

HAM-ZAH ( ء ) Produced from an area in the throat which is higher than the one used for producing the sound of AINE. There is no difference whatsoever between the sound of this letter and the sound of A-LIF when A-LIF carries a vowel or movement (Ee- Raab).

YAA ( ی ) Produces a similar sound to that of ‘Y’ in the English Language.

Now to sum up, basically there are two main types of sound in Arabic:

(a) Flat, rather slanting sounds ... somewhat like the American way of pronouncing the letter ‘A’ in APPLE and ADAM which require the lips to be stretched out, baring the front teeth; and

(b) Round, full sounds ... somewhat like the Englishman’s way of pronouncing the letter ‘AW’ in words such as RAW, LAW etc. ... which require the lips to be funnelled and jutted out as if to say an ‘O’ or to whistle. The round sounds in Arabic are however rounder, fuller and heavier than any Englishman’s ‘AW’.

The letters which have flat and slanting sounds are BAA ( ب ), TAA ( ت ), THAA ( ث ), HAA ( ء ), KHAA ( خ ), ZAA ( ز ), FAA ( ف ), HAA ( ﻫ ), and YAA ( ی ).

To the same category belong the following letters:

DAAL ( د ), THAAL ( ذ ), KAAF ( ك ), LAAM ( ل ), and WAA-W ( و ).
Letters which have a full and round sound are:

RAAW (ر)، SAAWD (ص)، DAAWD (ض)، TAAW (ط)
ZAAW (ظ)، and QAAWF (ق).

The remaining letters will be treated as belonging to the first category when the short vowel FAT-HAH is applied to them.

Letters whose sounds are to some extent or another alien to the English Language are:

THAA (ث)، HAA (ح)، KHAA (خ)، DAAL (د)،
THAAL (ذ)، RAAW (ر)، SAAWD (ص)، DAAWD (ض)،
TAAW (ط)، ZAAW (ظ)، AINE (ع)، GHINE (غ)، and
QAAWF (ق).

English letters and sounds which do not have a sound equivalent in Arabic are:

D as in DOOR;
G as in GOOD;
P as in POPULAR;
T as in TURKEY;
V as in VALUE;
CH as in CHOP.
Letters which require the tongue to be pushed out between the teeth are: THAA (ث)، THAAL (ث) and to some extent ZAAW (ظ).

While saying SAAWD (ص) and DAWD (ض) (just the name of the letters) it is better to clearly bring out the sound of DAAL (د) at the end.

Letters which are considered most difficult for the English speaking people to pronounce are the gutturals (ص، ض، ط، و، غ). All reading and writing in Arabic, like in Urdu and Persian, are from right to left.

While learning and teaching the language of the Qur'an, bear in mind the Hadith: Read the Qur'an the way the Arabs would.

Now please read the letters of the Alphabet in the order in which they are given below. Observe each letter carefully and make a mental note of its distinguishing features, such as the particular form and shape it has, whether, or not it has dots, the number and the position of the dots etc. Do NOT spell out these details orally. Do not for instance say:

Baa (ب) has a dot below;
Taa (ت) has two dots above; and
Jeem (ج) has a round belly, etc.

Instead just call out the full name of each letter as you were able to learn it from the preceding note on pronunciation. The extent of the
Lessons have been indicated by drawing a line at the end of each section, but depending on one’s performance one may practise more or less at a given time. However, accuracy should never be sacrificed for speed and quick results:

ا، ب، ب، ب، ب

2

ب، ت، ت، ب، ب

3

ت، ش، ب، ت، ش

4

ش، ب، ت، ش، ت

5

ج، ج، ش، ج، ب، ج
ح ح ح ح ح ح ح ح ح ح
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ت ا خ د د د د د د د
ج د د د ذ ذ ذ ذ ذ ذ
ر د ر ذ ذ ذ ذ ذ ذ ذ
ب ت ش ج ح ذ ذ ذ
ز ز ز ز ذ ذ ذ ذ ذ ذ
س ز س س س ش ش ش
س ا ر س ج ي ح ذ ب ذ
خ س ش ش ش ش ش ش
ش س س ص ص ش ص ا ش
ص ض ض ص ص ض ض ض
لا يوجد نص قابل للقراءة بشكل طبيعي من الصورة المقدمة.
LESSON 3

Letters of the Alphabet undergo certain changes, when they are joined to one another. Usually the first part of a certain letter is taken and joined to another letter coming after it. Thus in a given combination of letters, the first retains only its first part, losing the rest: whereas the last letter invariably retains its full and complete form. For example, when two JEEMS are joined together the first one loses its 'belly', while the second one retains it as in (اج) or (ي) depending on the script followed.

What applies to the first letter, also applies to all letters which occupy
With the exception of six letters, all the other letters of the Alphabet can be joined both ways i.e. with letters going before them as well as with those coming after them. The remaining six, can be joined only to those letters that precede them, and not to those that come after them.

They are:

A-LIF ( | ), DAAL ( د ), THAAL ( ذ ), RAAW ( ر ), ZAA ( ز ), and WAAW ( و ).

Some people have a tendency to confuse A-LIF with LAAM, and vice versa, when these two letters are joined with other letters. Such confusion arises because both A-LIF and LAAM are sometimes represented by a similar looking vertical line. This confusion can easily be avoided if the following points are borne in mind:

1. A-LIF is never joined to any other letter after it. Therefore if you find the long vertical stroke joined to any other letter coming after it, then it most certainly is LAAM and not A-LIF.

Examples: حلب بلد مبلغ

2. The last letter of a given combination of letters invariably retains its full and complete form. Therefore if a given combination of letters ends in a long vertical stroke, then it most surely is A-LIF AND not LAAM, because the full form of A-LIF is only a long vertical stroke whereas LAAM, in its original form has, in addition to the long vertical line, a round good-sized ‘belly’, which cannot be missed.

Examples: بال حامل
The following chart illustrates the technique of using the various letters in various positions, namely:
- Independent, Initial and Terminal:

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The following are not complete words. They are merely individual letters, joined together. Please treat them as individual letters and call out the name of each letter separately.

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<td>ه ه هْ هْ</td>
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عك غن فث قت لس لق لج
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ي حي خي جي سي شي من مي لي

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د فد طد عد عذ طذ طن

7
ضد غذ غي لد مي مذ 5 مه
فه له قه جد شه حذ عه ظي

8
خص طس ضك غض ست
غب قن ضظ قج فظ ظخ عث

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صذ ظي لم للك للك كم كوكر

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11
كد كد كذ هد هد هو هس

هش هش ت هة سة سجه

حة خة دة تة هد هد

صرقيق ضة هظ كم حچ هش

فف قف خف كص ضه ظة

كن كن كر كم كم كن حل نر نز

اجا سا حا شا لش ما لم لو

خا لخ ها له لة عا لا كا كل

كل كا لا لل له ضا لذ لا كا كلا لا ع مع هع هغ له

كي صف غغ رغ هخ كم مغ مف
BAA (ب), TAA (ت), THAA (ث), NOON (ن) and YAA (ي) when joined to other letters after them are represented by a single identical stroke in each case. They differ only in the number and the position of the dots. If the stroke contains one dot above, then the letter is NOON; if two, then TAA; if three, then THAA; and if there are two dots below the stroke, then the letter is YAA. HAM-ZAH (ع) too is represented by a similar stroke, but instead of a dot, it carries a small half AINE on top of it. The following Exercise illustrates these points:

1. BAA (ب)
2. TAA (ت)
3. THAA (ث)
4. NOON (ن)
5. YAA (ي)
6. HAM-ZAH (ع)

The following Exercise illustrates these points:
The following Exercise once again presents the letters of the Alphabet in all the three positions, namely, in the beginning (INITIAL), in the middle (MEDIAL) and at the end (TERMINAL) of a combination of letters:

LESSON 4
EE-RAAB OR VOWELS OR MOVEMENTS
After learning the names and sounds of the letters well, the next important step is to master the various vowels and movements. They are called EE-RAAB in Arabic. It is these EE-RAAB or VOWELS which produce the desired sound-effects when applied to the various letters. They are a vital key to the correct and proper reading of the Qur’an.
As a general rule it must be remembered that the Short movements (vowels) in Arabic are indeed very short, sharp and quick. Roughly speaking, the three short movements may be represented in English in the following manner:

: a

: i

: u

Of the many kinds of vowels, the most important ones are the SHORT vowels. They are three in number, and they can be regarded as the most basic ones, from which all other movements are derived. Their names in the Arabic language are:


FAT-HAH ( ) is a small horizontal stroke slanting downwards from right to left. It is always placed above a given letter.

KAS-RAH ( ) is a similar slanting stroke, from right to left, but it is always applied beneath a certain letter. In other words the only difference between the FAT-HAH and KAS-RAH is that one is placed above and the other below the letters.

DAM-MAH ( ) is a stroke with a tiny loop at its head at the right. Like FAT-HAH this sign too is applied above the letters.

Please identify the three short vowels in the following Exercise:

1

2

3

As a general rule it must be remembered that the Short movements (vowels) in Arabic are indeed very short, sharp and quick. Roughly speaking, the three short movements may be represented in English in the following manner:
FAT-HAH: may be said to equal the first ‘A’ in BANANA, where it produces a quick sound - and not as it is used in BARBER, where the sound produced by it is rather long and slow.

KAS-RAH: may be said to be the equal of the letter ‘I’ as that letter is used after ‘B’ in BISCUIT, and not as it is used in PIRATE.

DAM-MAH: may be considered the equal of ‘U’ as it is used in BUSH and PUSH, and not as it is used in RUSH and HUSH.

DAM-MAH: may also be considered equal to ‘OO’ as used in BOOK, and not as it is used in LOOT.

Please bear in mind that the Arabic Movements in all the above examples are quicker and sharper than their English Counterparts.

In order to apply these movements to the various letters of the alphabet take the first letter (and in the case of some letters, take the first two letters) from the name of a given letter of the Alphabet, and add A, I or U to it, depending on the particular vowel you want to use. Take LAAM for example. The first letter of its name is ‘L’. Add Fat-Hah, Kas-Rah, Dam-Mah to it, and you have: LA, LI, LU. Similarly, take the letter KHAA. You must take the first two letters from the name of this letter and then apply the same vowels to them. As a result you will get: KHA, KHI, KHU.

The same procedure will be applicable to the rest of the letters.
LESSON 5

MAK-SOOR LETTERS
or
LETTERS WITH KAS-RAH

All the ‘Flat’ letters will produce a light thin sound when FAT-HAH, KAS-RAH or DAM-MAH is applied to them. They will have to be pronounced with lips stretched across in such a way that the front teeth will show. The round letters, with the exception of RAAB, will give a heavy and full sound when any three movements are applied to them. To pronounce them with any of these three movements, lips will have to be curled and pushed out as if to say ‘O’. The letter RAAB is however an exception. It will be pronounced thin and light when it has KAS-RAH, and full and heavy when it carries FAT-HAH or DAM-MAH.

It is noticed that some people while they do funnel out their lips to utter the round sounds with KAS-RAH, they pull back their lips all too soon and suddenly thereby spoiling the proper sound-effect. To avoid this, make sure that the lips stay in the position of ‘O’ till the full sound is completed.

In the next three lessons read each letter of the Alphabet along with its given EE-RAAB as one unit. Do all the spelling-work mentally, and when it comes to reading aloud, read out the whole unit in each case as one. For instance, do not say: BAA + KAS-RAH = BI; or TAA + KAS-RAH = TI. Instead, say: BI, TI.

1
2
3

١
٢
٣
Lesson 6

MaF-Tooh Letters

or

Letters with Fat-Hah

Lesson 7

MaD-Moom Letters

or

Letters with Dam-Mah
MIXED EXERCISE FOR LESSONS - 5, 6 & 7

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9
مَهَوَّش شَش شَش شَش
2
لِلَّي لِلَّي لِلَّي لِلَّي لِلَّي لِلَّي لِلَّي
3
قُل قُل قُل قُل قُل قُل قُل قُل
4
وَوَوَوَوَوَوَوَوَوَوَوَوَوَوَو
5
غَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغَغ*
MIXED EXERCISE FOR ALL PREVIOUS LESSONS:

1. بي بَي بَي بَي بَي
2. بَي بَي بَي بَي بَي بَي
3. خَي خَي خَي خَي خَي خَي
4. يَه يَه يَه يَه يَه يَه
5. يَه يَه يَه يَه يَه يَه
6. جَا حَا جَا حَا لَز لَز لَز
7. يَس نُس شَس بَس بَس بَس
8. حَا حَا حَا حَا حَا حَا حَا حَا
9. ضَق ضَق ضَق ضَق ضَق ضَق
10. عَف عَف عَف عَف عَف عَف عَف
11. شَع شَع شَع شَع شَع شَع شَع
هم هم قل قل قل كيف كت

كتم كين كين كين كين كا كا

لا لا لا قل قل قل قل قل

يث يثم كت كت خش سكت

شة شة شة عش عش فص

قص قص قص هوى هوى هوى

كه كيه لى أو أى كي يك تي نى

في لي في قى قى قى قى

راذ كيو سب جب جب إذا لى

أب تيد جم خس رؤ شم

روم ورى ولى قاث قاث يم
1 وَأَمْلَىٰ ذَٰلِكَ يَدُٰنَا لَكَ يَا بْنُ إِسْرَائِيلَ
2 مَّنِّيْتَكَ هَٰذَهُ الْكِتَابَ لِتَقْرَأَهُ أَفَأَخْفَىَكَ
3 زُرِّ عَصِيًّ نَّعَشَ قَضَا بِنَكَمْهِ كَذَٰلِكَ
4 وَأَطْلَعْتَ أَمُّيْ بَلَّا أَمْلِيَّ كَلِٰلٖ
5 فَنُعِّلْ فِي نَفْلِهِ فَنَفْلُ فِي نَفْلِهِ فَنُعِّلْ
6 فَكَتَبَ نُسْرَةً فَقَلَّ فَقَلَّ فَمَنْ يَكْفُ
7 إِبْلِ يَلِىٰ سَلِيمَ صَحِيحَهُ رَسُّلَ عُمَّرُ
8 سَيِّئَةً جَعَلَ مَعَكَ إِذَا نُفِخَ سَيِّئَةً
9 تَجْهَلَ وَجَهَةُ نُبِيٌّ مَا يَحْبُّ نَزَلَ
10 مَيِّتَ يَلِىٰ عَرْضَ بَلَأْ أَمْرَ حَيَّةٍ
11 مَلَكَ حَيَّةٍ بَطَلَ مَنْهَا نَعَمُّ نَعَمٌ
سنة قيل بعد ثلاث بشر بصر
تذكر سكن شفق خرة وليد
نقمو ملايلا لا يكفا نكا كلا كيل
صمأ عهدة لعب نبا سبا ليوت
كلب قينا لعب لينا لشا وبه
خشى رضي سالم زج ذكر نظر
برق حطب عيس سلط ملك صلة
ابت بت جح خ ذ ذير تس ش
ض ط لع ع غ ف ل ك ل م ب و لا
إبت بت جح خ ذ ذير تس ش
ض ط لع ع غ ف ل ك ل م ب و لا
أبت بت جح خ ذ ذير تس ش
ظ لع ع ف ق ل ك ل م ب و لا
LESSON 8
SU-KOON

Sometimes the movement of a letter is brought to an abrupt halt, as if cutting it in half. This happens when the sign of Su- koon is applied to that letter. Su-Koon may be said to be a half-movement. It is represented by either a full or half circle on top of a given letter.

Please learn to identify the SU-KOON in the following Exercise:

LESSON 9
SAA-KIN LETTERS OR LETTERS WITH SU-KOON

It must be clearly understood that Su-koon does not render a letter silent or soundless. On the other hand it merely reduces the sound of a letter to half and brings it to a sudden stop before it is completed. On account of the peculiar nature of the movement it is rather difficult to pronounce a Saa-Kin letter (a letter carrying Su-Koon) all by itself. For this reason Saa-Kin letters are always conjoined with other letters which have full Ee-Raab. This makes their reading so much easier.

Here is how some of the letters sound when Su-Koon is applied to them:

- BAA: like ‘BE’ in ABE (slightly more pronounced)
- JEEM: “ ‘GE’ “ JUDGE
- SEEN: “ ‘CE’ “ RICE or ‘S’ in STAMP
- SHEEN: “ ‘SH’ “ RUSH
- FAA: “ ‘FF’ “ JEEF or BLUFF
- KAAF: “ ‘KE’ “ BIKE or HIKE
- LAAM: “ ‘LL’ “ DULL or BULL
- MEEM “ ‘M’ “ TOM
- NOON: “ ‘N’ “ MOON or GUN
When YAA with Su-koon is preceded by a letter carrying Fat-Hah, it sounds like ‘I’ in FINE or ‘Y’ in NYLON. When Su-koon is applied to the letter ‘RAAW’ (۱۸) it will be read full and heavy if the letter immediately before it carries a FAT-HAH or DAM-MAH. It will be read light and soft if the letter before it carries KAS-RAH.

The exercise below teaches you how to combine SAA-KIN letters with those carrying Fat-Hah. Please read each two-letter combination as one whole unit, and do all the spelling work mentally:

1. ۱۱۱۱۱۱۱۱
2. ۱۱۱۱۱۱۱۱
3. ۱۱۱۱۱۱۱۱
4. ۱۱۱۱۱۱۱۱
5. ۱۱۱۱۱۱۱۱
6. ۱۱۱۱۱۱۱۱
7. ۱۱۱۱۱۱۱۱
8. ۱۱۱۱۱۱۱۱
9. ۱۱۱۱۱۱۱۱
(regular text in Arabic script)
سَلَّمُ سَمَّى شَمَّ شَمَّةٌ شَمَّ
شَبْ صَبَّاَبَ تَنَّ نَلَّ تَنُّ
زَّنَّ وَلَ زَنَّ زَلَّ وَلَ زَلَّ صَرَّ
زَّنَّ آَمَرَ دَعَ أَذَّنَ أَذَّنَ يِدَّ
رَبُّ حَقَّ حَقَّ كَفَّ قَذَّ لَبَ سَرَّ
ذَكَّرْ صَفَّ قَلَّ قَطَّ شَقَّ دَكَّ تَلَّ
شَرَّ بَثَّ ، أَذَّرَكَ ، شَلَّمَ
بَزْ تَنَ ، صَنَّدَلَ ، مُخَمَّلَ ، مُلْمَلَ
اطَلَّسَ ، سَرَّكَسَ ، بَنَدَرَ ، مَنَتَرَ
صَفَّدَرَ ، جَغَفَرَ ، دُفَارَ ، دُعُوَّثَ
Exercise combining SAA-KIN letters with those carrying the three short movements:
لا يوجد نص يمكن قراءته بشكل طبيعي من الصورة المقدمة.
Mixed Exercise for all the previous lessons:

1. رَسَّمَ—سُرَمَةُ—مَجِيشُ—مُمْكِن
2. فُرَصَّتُ—مُحَثَّتُ—خَضَرَتُ—يَفْحَرُ
3. جُبُبُ تَكُوُنُ—هُمْ سُبُبُ—بَشْ كَرُزُ—زُحَصُثُ
4. مَنَدَ مَمْ يَنُوُنُ—تَمْ تَمْ مَوَهُ
5. وُهَأُ يُهُ نَةِجِلَ يَلِ آتَ
6. سُبُبُ سُبُبُ يَلِ حَذَ فَغُ مَغُ كُلِّ
7. كُلُّ تَنَ زَنُ يَبِ لَهُ تُلِ يُنُ
8. بَمْ سَقُ مَغُ لاً كَا أَذُ لاً إِلَ أَرُ
9. لَقَدْ فَقَّدَ قَلَمُ كُرَمُ عَيْبُ
10. حَسَدُ حَسَدُ حَسَدُ حَسَدُ بَدَنُ
11. بَذَّنَ يَدُنَ يَدُنُ حَيّنُ حُيّرُ
1. خَيْرٌ وَرَّبُّ وَرَّانَ جَفَنَ جَفَنٍ
2. حَمَّدُ نَبِيُّ بَعْدُ سَرُّدَ سَرُّدَ
3. سَرُّدَ قَدْمَ قَدْمَ قَدْمَ مَسِتَ
4. إِهْدُ إِنَّكَ عَلَى أَذْيَ أَوْزُقَ
5. مُلُكُ فَهُمُ تَحْنَ لَمْ يَسْمَعُ
6. يَلِدَ أَرْضَ كَجَفَفَ يِكَّنُ لَهُمْ
7. عِجَلَ يِفِيَ أَظِلُّ رَزُقَ
8. يَجْحَدُ حَتَّى سَبَعَ حُرُمَ نَسَتَ
9. فَيَيْحَ عِبْدُ فَقَلَ شَيْئَةٌ تَفْعَ
10. فَهُيُّ بَغْضٍ قَسَطَ رَيْحَ حُرَتَ فُرْدَ
11. إِخْرَجْ آنَذَرْ تُنْذِرْ آنَفَسَ
LONG VOWELS

To get the long movements: add A-Lif to a letter carrying Fat-Hah; Yaa to one carrying Kas-Rah; and Waa-W to one bearing Dam-Mah. The resulting sounds will be both long and slow. Their length is estimated to be equal to counting 1, 2 at moderate speed. A-Lif, Waa-W, Yaa, thus help to lengthen and slow down the sounds of Fat-Hah, Dam-Mah, Kas-Rah respectively. The Arabic vowels may be said to be a shade longer than ‘A’ in BARBER, ‘EA’ in DEAN (or ‘EE’ in FEEL), and ‘OO’in ROOT.

Practise the three long vowels in the Exercise below, and do not forget the fact that these movements are supposed to be both long and slow. If you reduce their length unduly, or utter them in a quick and sharp manner, as you would Fat-Hah, Kas-Rah and Dam-Mah, then you will completely neutralize their effect.
1. بَعْوَ تُو َّ عُوَّ َ ثُوَّ َ دُوَّ رُوَّ
2. يَٰبَعْوَ تُو َّ عُوَّ َ ثُوَّ َ دُوَّ رُوَّ
3. باِيَّي َّ عُوَّ َ ثُوَّ َ دُوَّ رُوَّ
4. جَعْوَ جِيَّ عُوَّ َ ثُوَّ َ دُوَّ رُوَّ
5. كَا عُوَّ َ ثُوَّ َ دُوَّ رُوَّ رُوِّ
6. رَا عُوَّ َ ثُوَّ َ دُوَّ رُوِّ
7. حِيِّ عُوَّ َ ثُوَّ َ دُوَّ رُوِّ
8. عُوَّ َ ثُوَّ َ دُوَّ رُوِّ
9. فِيَّ عُوَّ َ ثُوَّ َ دُوَّ رُوِّ
10. فِيَّ عُوَّ َ ثُوَّ َ دُوَّ رُوِّ
11. وَيْ هَِّيَّ هَّوُ اِبْنِ بِيَّا ّيَوُ
and \(\text{أ، و، ي، ك، و، ٍ، َ} \) will serve as long vowels, only if they are added to Fat-Hah, Dam-Mah, and Kas-Rah respectively. If this arrangement is disturbed, then the resulting sounds will no longer be slow or long. Here is how the changing of the above combination will affect and change the sounds involved:

Fat-Hah + Waa-W will be read as ‘OU’ in BOUT and SHOUT

Fat-Hah + YAA will be read as ‘l’ in FINE or ‘Y’ in NYLON

Kas-Rah + Waa-W will produce the sound of ‘EW’ in FEW and PEW

Dam-Mah + Yaa will produce the same sound as ‘UEE’ in QUEEN or ‘Ul’ in QUILT and QUICK.

The following Exercise illustrates this point.

1 ١٢٣٤٥٦٧

The following Exercise illustrates this point.

١ ٢ ٣ ٤ ٥ ٦ ٧
In the following Exercise the short and the long vowels occur side by side. Please distinguish them clearly and read out each letter with its correct vowel DISTINCTLY. At this point it may be mentioned that the secret of good Qur'an reading lies in pronouncing each letter correctly and each syllable distinctly and clearly:

1. باَلِيٰ - باَلِيٰ - كَأَلَا - كَأَلَا - جُوْنِيٰ - جُوْنِيٰ
2. تَلِيٰ - تَلِيٰ - تَلِيٰ - تَلِيٰ - مَانِيٰ - مَانِيٰ
3. بَلِيٰ - كَأَلَا - بُورَا - مَوْلِيٰ - رَأَيٰ - تَلِيٰ
4. حَلِيٰ - رُوْنِي - شَاهِيٰ - سُوْنِيٰ - بُوْنَ تَاٰ - كَبَّورِيٰ
5. رَبُوٰي - مَيْهَي - مِهَي - مِنَتَا - كَهْرِيٰ

6. أَبَا - قَالَ - أَلَا - رَأَدَ - كَمَا - طَالَ - أَذَا
7. جَدَّ - بَالَ - بَلَا - كَانَ - نَمَا - يَكَا - دَارَ
8. سُوْقَ - نُوْحُ - حُوْلَ - ذَوَّنَا - فُؤَرَ
9. أُوْتَ - آيَنَ - قَيَلَ - بَيْنَ - فِيهِ
10. كَيْفَ - صَيْفَ - قُوْهَ - رَيْبَ - فُؤَقَ
1. دين ريح زوج حلال غريب
2. حيث ينحي ينحى قدو بنتو علي
3. مينا لفي يرفع غشا سحو حقي
4. مزغ في مزغ في كلوا بزي في جاسن
5. فزني كشتي كشتي تبتز كيكز
6. إميلي هللي هوارت موارت ينكا
7. منكا زينط يهلي غاجل عورت
8. كمك دهي ديزي توا هوا بلأ
9. سلا آد ب كمر جمل دوا بقيد
10. هرن بكرت سبزي بارش تامن
11. فلغي توكر كرمي سواري تزكارين
1. حَرَبُوْرَةُ. فَأَلْوَدَةُ. خُمَانُي. مُمَّاَيُّ.
2. آمِرُ تَسْرُرَ. بِئْتَارَشُ. دِرُياً. سِنَنْدَرَ.
3. عَلِّ ذَكَرَ. بَاهْرُ جَاء. حَجَاَّمَةَتُ كَرَأَ.
4. كُهُانُي سَنَ. مَلَيْيِهَا. قَلَّمْ بَنِيَّا. سَبَقَ.
5. سِتَّا. سُؤْرَرْ نُكَّلَا. سُنُيَّةَ مَثُ كَرَ.
6. جَلْدِي جَا. يَهْبَ قَبْرَ عَلَطَ هِي. مُنَشِّي.
7. يَيْيِيْ كُلُّ جَاتَا. كَعَزَّ مَثُ كَرَزً. كَبْيُوتْز.
8. دُمْ هُلَا رُهَا هَي. وَهَا دِشُ بَرْشُ كَا هَي.
9. هَذَا سَبْ كَا مَاِلَكَ هَي. وَهَيِّ هَمَّا رَأ.
10. رَأَيْتِ هَي. أَبْ تَوُظُّ عَا كَرَزً. يَاَرَبَ هَمَّارَي.
11. سِنَدُ كَرَز. رَحْمَيْيُ هِدَا رَأْيِي. قَلَدْرَ.
12. بِعْتِيَيْهَيْ. كَبَتِبَ نُورًا وَاَيَّيَ. حَاكَ كِرَزَ.
1. ِماَكِئَسَ َكُنْيَةً َدَرَكَ بِهِ
2. ِلَيْنِ َهُزِكَارَةَ حَتَّى َلَا يَا َلِىَ َرَضِيَ َكَّالَبَت
3. ِمُرَوَّيَّةَ ْيَا ْأُوْلَىَ َمُضْرِيَّةَ َكَّالَبَت
4. ِبِنَانِ َدَيْمُ َتَزْمُّمَت َكَّرَ ِصَابْنِينَ َمُلَكَر
5. ِنَّمَا َوَلٌّيَّ أَخْمَعْت َبِكَّادِر َهُيَّ َأَسْ َكَّأَ َقَدْ
6. ِبِهِ َلَحِيَّ َهُيَّ َبِهِ َتَغْنِيَّ كُبْسيَّ ِهِلْكِيَّ ِهِيَ
7. ِرَضْنَاتْيَ كَّي َسَلَبَيْنَ ُعَمْدَةَ َهُيَّ َكُصَرْيَيْنَ
8. ِكَّأَ أَشْتَرَأْ َوَذَا َهُيَّ َسَدْرَيَّيْنَ َكَأَبُرَّةٌ ِقُرْزِيَّيْنَ
9. ِهِيَ َسَدْرَيَّيْنَ َعَرْثْيَ رُكًا َهُيَّ َصَفْرَيْنَ
10. ِكَّي َظَرْفَ َبَعْجَالَ ِبَيْثْر َرُكًا َهُيَّ َجُنْوَرَيْنَ
11. ِكَّأَ مَهُيَّةَ َهُيَّ َسُؤَرَيْنَ َبِهِيَّ َسَدْرَيْنَ
12. ِجَعَامَتْ َخَاَيْسَرُ َهُيَّ َيَهَّ عَرْثِيَّ كَٰ
13. ِقَاعَدَة َهُيَّ يُبَارَتْ َأَذُرُوْ َكَّي َهُيَّ َأَحَا َكُّا
1 قبّة - تسود - آخوذ - يقول
2 يوسف - أوتي - أوتي - تخفي
3 أملي - جريي - بنيي - يكون
4 تفور - قرأه - مكان - يديه
5 صور - تقوى - إليك - أوجي

6 تشتغيل - بنتكم - عليهم - ليضيض
7 أبونا - نوحيو - ديجيني - تيتغيني
8 نوره - ينفوون - موغود - تدغون

9 مضضوب - تخيوان - سيمخبا - فزعون
10 صائمون - رازقين - سينغضون

11 يستفرون - نرونه - يفسدون
Both Ham-Zah and A-Lif, when FAT-HAH is applied to them, will sound like ‘A’ in ADVICE. As you have learnt already a Su-Koon is a half movement. If the sound of ‘A’ as it occurs in Advice is cut by half, the resultant sound will be that of A-lif or Ham-Zah when Su-Koon is added to either one of them. The exercise below illustrates this point:

Mixed Exercise:

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Mixed Exercise:
The following are parts of Aa-yaat (signs) from the Qur’an. Read them clearly and carefully and pronounce each syllable, including the very last one fully and distinctly:

1. يأيِّهَا يَاذَٰلِكَ كُتُبِيَّنا تَأْوِيلَ حَسَنَهَا
2. بارَكَانَا قُرْنِهَا. رَبِّي، رَبِّي
3. يَسَدُّونَ وَيَفْلُونَ وَآمِرُونَ وَأَهِمُّ
4. رُؤْيَاتٍ وَأَفْتُونٍ يَأْمَرُونَ. تَزُّدُونَ

5. قَالَ أَيَّضًا يَخَافُونَ جَنًّا مِنْ أَرْضِنَا يَصْبُحُونَ
6. إِنْ أَخَسِنتُمْ أَخَسِنتُمْ مَا نَفْسُكُمْ وَإِنْ أَسَأَتْنَا
7. فَأَلْقَوْا بُلْغًا مُجَمَّعًا بِنَيَّتِهِمْ نَسِيًا حَوْشَهَا
8. قَالَ فِيهِمَا ثَمُّدُونَ وَفِيهِمَا تَمْوَّلُونَ وَمَنَّا
9. يَخَفُّونَ. هَيَّاهَا هَيَّاهَا لِيَوْمَ نَوَاهُونَ
10. وَيَيْهُمُ الْحَمْرِيَّاتُ الْفَضِّيَّاتُ يَضُحُّهُنَّ. يَعْلَمُ
11. مَا بَيْنَ أَيْمَانِهِمْ وَمَا خَلَقْهُمْ. يَغْنُزُونَ
Arabic is written in different scripts. According to the change in the script the letters of the alphabet too undergo certain changes. In the following exercise note how some of the letters have changed according to the script in which they have occurred.
LESSON 12
To get the sound of Tanween, add an extra Saa-Kin Noon to the sound of Fat-Hah, Kas-Rah or Dam-Mah. For example A-Lif with Fat-Hah sounds like ‘A’ in ADVICE. When double Fat-Hah is applied to A-Lif, it will sound like ‘AN’ in ‘ANNOYED’. Similarly, we know that A-Lif with a single Kas-Rah sounds like ‘I’ in ‘IRRITATING’. If Double Kas-Rah is applied to it then the sound of A-Lif will be like that of ‘IN’ in INTENTION. So also double Fat-Hah and double Kas-Rah when applied to ‘FAA’ will sound like ‘FAN’ in FANTASTIC and ‘FIN’ in FINLAND, respectively. BAA with double Fat-Hah will sound like ‘BAN’ in BANANA. The Tanween can be better understood in the following way:

Double Fat-Hah is equal to Fat-Hah + a Saa-Kin Noon.
Double Kas-Rah is equal to Kas-Rah + a Noon carrying Su-Koon.
Double Dam-Mah is equal to Dam-Mah + a Noon carrying Su-Koon.

The same point has been illustrated clearly in the Exercise below:
It should be noted that it is customary to add an extra A-Lif to the letter concerned in case of the Double Fat-Hah being applied to it, for example:

LESSON 13

Sometimes the long vowels are replaced in writing by certain other signs.

But this is purely a change in the form of writing and in no way affects the resulting sounds, which will remain long and slow. Under this scheme, the A-Lif is replaced by a much smaller vertical line, which actually is called a vertical Fat-Hah; the YAA is replaced by a vertical Kas-Rah; and the Waa-W is replaced by a Dam-Mah placed upside down— an ‘inverted’ Dam-Mah. Please learn to identify these signs in the following Exercise:
LESSON 14

The Vertical Fat-Hah replaces A-LIF as a lengthening agent for the sound of Fat-Hah:

1. مَلِكَ منَ اللَّهِ
2. لَنْ يَغْلِبَ الَّذِي يُضَلُّ

Mixed Exercise:

3. أَكْرَمَ أَمْيَةَ مَلِكَ مَارِبَ كِتْبَ تَعْوَىَ
4. عَذِبَ أَنْعَمَ قُلَ رَرَ قَمَّهُمْ صَرْقَتَينَ
5. أَيْشَتَ أَذْ قِمَ يَلْصَفْرِينَ سَبْخَكَتْ
6. مَكْلِمِيَ خُلِدْوَنَ يَبْتَيْنَ فَتْيَنِيَ غُوَّيْنَ
7. ليِنَيْلُفَ لَنْ يَلْفُ فَرْيَشْ تَسْتِيِّكَمْ عُمَّرَتْ

LESSON 15

The Vertical Kas-Rah replaces YAA as a lengthening agent for the sound of Kas-Rah:

8. رَيْبَيْنِ هِيْ بِلِيْ يَيْ

Mixed Exercise:

9. يِنَهَ فِيْهِ وَقِيلَهِ أَلْفِهِمْ يَيْ يَسْتَنْشِي
10. يَرَبُّهُمْ تُرَزُّ قِنَهِ تُؤْرَهِ بَعْوَةِ يَمَرُّ حَرِيجَهٌ
We have learnt in the previous lessons that A-Lif, Yaa and Waa-W lengthen the sounds of Fat-Hah, Kas-Rah and Dam-Mah respectively. These long movements are further lengthened by adding the sign of Mad-Dah to them. The length of the Mad-Dah is estimated to be double and in some cases even treble the length of an ordinary long movement. For instance whenever A-Lif is found to carry the sign of Mad-Dah, its sound will become longer than usual i.e. twice the usual length of A-Lif. So will the sounds of Yaa and Waa-W, if Mad-Dah is added to them.

There are two types of Mad-Dah, which are differentiated in writing by one being written in a heavier and bolder print than the other. While there is a certain technical difference between the two, at this stage it is sufficient to remember that both serve to lengthen the sound of the long vowels more than usual. Identify the two types of Mad-Dah in the Exercise below:
On account of the intricacies of the Arabic language, sometimes a certain letter may occur in the process of writing, but it is not pronounced in reading. While these letters have their meaning and place in the construction of the sentence, for the purposes of reading they are treated as silent letters. For example, when an A-Lif is followed by a Saa-Kin letter (i.e. a letter with Su-Koon on it), that A-Lif will lose its sound-value. Take ًلاً (لاً) for instance. In this example A-Lif will be treated as a silent letter because it is followed immediately by FAA with a Su-Koon on it. The correct pronunciation therefore, will not be LAAF (like LAUGH, as the Americans will pronounce it), but Laf, with a single ‘A’ and rhyming with ‘LUFF’ in the word BLUFF.

In certain cases the number of letters losing their sound may be more than one. In the example ًلاً (لاً) both YAA and A-LIF will be considered silent. In the following Exercise the correct pronunciation is given in a finer print directly beneath each example:
قال قدام لا لاف قان وقال ذو الاله
قال قالي بين جاني جاني وقيل قول ذا بين جين
وات سوة ذي ون ون ربا موا
ما كنت مبن موب

Mixed Exercise:
قال عم كنتا قالن قانجرت بإاخرة
رزعات على مسيب بن لهدى رفعها ابن
شتينا ليشايمي يايش س واشيء اوذي
يعذروحكم والفواد يسواي تومنوان
يقومونم تعود تكيب ذي اوسم هكل
الانسان أوليتك عائمة ذو الفضل
العظيم تفوى الا نفس بره او منكم

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LESSON 19
THE EXTRA STROKE

Sometimes a certain extra stroke occurs in writing, but it has no sound value. While this stroke too has a certain background from the point of view of language, for the purposes of reading it should be treated as a mere adjunct to the previous letter or movement. Usually such a stroke occurs after a long vowel. In the following Exercise, note the position of the extra stroke (the silent stroke) and the way it is read:

The following are parts of AA-YAAT of the Qur'an. Read them clearly and carefully. Express each syllable fully and distinctly, including the last syllable in each AA-YAH. Do not apply stops, yet. The stop signs will be explained later:

1. آوْنَزِلَ. إِنْقَدِيَّ . يَعْتَفَرَزَهُ . صَلُوَّهُ
2. يَعْتَفَرَزَهُ ذِي إِنْقَدِيَّ . كُنَّا . فِي أَكْرِمَ
3. رَحْمَةً . قَاوًا . وَأَعْلَمْنَا . حَتَّى إِلَى مُؤْلَآءِ
4. نَرَسَكَ . أَزْنَيْنِي . يَمِكَّنْنِي . تَجْوَدُهُمْ . أَنْفَقِ
5. يَأْسِسُ . مَفْوَشُ . مَأْوَهُمْ . أَزْنُسُكَ
6. هُذِينَ . مَلْسَتَا . أَنْفِسُكَ . هُوَمُهُ
7. وَإِذْ قُرَّا فِي مَكَّ . أَنْبُحُنَّ قَآَرَعَتُكُمْ . أَمَلَّتُنَا أَلْ
8. يَفْلَعُونَ وَآَتَمَّنَتْ تَنَفَّرُوا نَ . تَكُلِّدُ عَلِيمُوا كَمَيْ
9. فَتَقَسَّمَ مَا كَذَكَهُ بِكَبْرِ قَهْلَيَّةٍ وَلَيْسَ مَا
10. فَشَرَأْ وَيِمَآ أَنْفَحُتُمُ نَبَوَكُنَّآ يَغْلَبُو نَ . وَقَاكُت
1. أو لمهم لم ننخر سهم فما كان نعصم تعليستنا من
2. قضيل قد وقعا الندمات بيا خانتهننك تكسيرون
3. قال لا نسو يا يحيى يا تيسبت ولا نزحفين من أنوين
4. عسيرما نحروا نكفو واصر يا نزع في وآخر ض عن
5. الجليلين واو خيتا إلى موسى أن آتى عصاك
6. قادا هي تلقف ما يا فيكون وقال النكد من قومه
7. ينعتون أكن رموس وقومه يبيعدا ووا في لا رض
8. ويعي أرث يا أهلك وقيل يأ رض ابكي من ما تك
9. يسما يا فيلي وغيض النفا وتمهدا الا ضر
10. لا تقصص رؤ يا تى على الخويت في كيند واك كيداً
11. قالوا أضعي أحكام و ما تحن بيا ويل أحكام
12. في خليجين إذ هبنوا يقيني ههد فأقطوا على وجو
13. أين يا ت بصيروا و نحن يا هلكلم لكمين و
14. لقد علمتكم المستخرمين من نغم战争 وردت عليهم
15. انمضاءت خيرون و لقد جاءت رسلنا إبراهيم
16. يا نبشري قالوا السماء قال سلم فما كيت أن جا
The concept of doubling the sound of a letter is something that is not found in the English Language. Even when two letters are found together in English, they do not actually produce a double sound. In Arabic on the other hand the process and the effect of doubling are very much real. Whenever an Arabic letter is doubled, the sound proceeding from it is equal to that letter actually being used two times. When the letter BAA, for instance, is sought to be doubled the resulting sound will actually be like that of two BAAs. This is achieved by keeping the lips tightly closed a little longer than it takes to say BAA once. The time taken to utter a double letter will be equal to counting 1,2, at moderate speed.

For the purpose of doubling a letter, instead of writing that letter over twice, the sign of SHAD-DAH or TASHDEED is applied to it. This sign looks like a tiny ‘W’ and it is invariably applied above a given letter. Further, since it is difficult to pronounce a letter with Shad-Dah all by itself, it is usually suffixed to another letter with a full short or long movement. If we analyze such a combination, we will find the following...
situation: first letter with a full movement; second letter with Su-Koon; third letter actually a repetition of the second letter, but with a full movement.

The important point to be remembered in this connection is that the movement - must be read in one breath, and without the letters actually being separated from each other in sound. For example, to read (٩٨) say: DAS, like BUS, and express the SEEN forcefully, and then in the same breath say, SA like ‘SA’ in SALAMI. The result will be DAS-SA, with the sound of the first SEEN merging smoothly into that of the second SEEN. Thus you will get the full effect of pronouncing the same letter over two times without actually breaking or separating the sound of one from the sound of the other.

Since most English speaking students are found to flounder at this sound, it is recommended that they learn this sound in a somewhat exaggerated form, in the beginning. Like for instance, instead of saying DAS-SA with just two ‘s’ try to play upon the sound of the letter ‘s’ and say Dassssss-Sa, to begin with. This will make the eventual mastering of the sound considerably easier, Inshaa Al-Laah.
MUSHAD-DAD LETTERS OR LETTERS WITH SHAD-DAH

As taught in earlier lessons please do all the spelling work mentally. Read each one of the combination of letters given below, as one full unit. Do not say orally: A-Lif + Baa + Shad-Dah + Fat-Hah = Ab-Ba. Rather say: Ab-Ba, Jab-Ba, Dab-Ba etc.:

In the following Exercise identify the sign of Shad-Dah:

1. 
2. 
3. 

4. 
5. 
6. 

7. 
8.
Mixed Exercise with SHAD-DAH on Consonants:
 Mixed Exercise with SHAD-DAH on Vowels:

1. ربنا ارْبِكَ اِنَّنا كَانَ لَكَ نَعْطَاكُم
2. كَلَمْنَا ارْبِكَ اِنَّنا فَضَّلْتُمْ يَدَهُ يَطَوَّنَ
3. سِيْرَتْ غَيْلَتْ تَكُونَنَّ وَلَا غَوْيَتْنَم
4. يَتَسْكِبُ لَبِيْحِصْ فَلَنُنَيْنَكْ قَدْ رَبَّكُتْ صَدَقَاء فَمُصْبِيْسَ ؤٰ مُتَكُيِّنِنَّ
5. تَنفَّس نُسْتَنْفَانَّهُمْ لِيُطَهِّرُنَّ يَعِدْ هُمَّ فَلَنُخَيْطْيِنَّهَا نُورَل حُرْيَم حَجَّة رَيْحَام

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It was mentioned in Lesson 19 that when a vowel is sandwiched between a letter bearing a full movement and another bearing a Su-koon, then that vowel will be treated as a silent letter. The same principle applies to letters carrying the Shad-Dah. When a vowel without an independent movement of its own is followed by another letter bearing the sign of Shad-Dah, that vowel will lose its sound value completely, and it will be treated as a silent letter.

In the following exercise join the first letter of each combination directly with the letter bearing the Shad-Dah, and disregard the intervening vowels completely as if they did not exist at all:
LESSON 23

SHAD-DAH WITH TAN-WEEN

So far the Shad-Dah was used with a letter which had a single movement on it. The following lesson teaches how to apply the Shad-Dah to a letter which has a double movement (Tan-Ween) on it. Take one of the following combinations and analyse it, and it will work out like this: first letter with a full short movement; second letter with Su-Koon; third letter, which is actually a repetition of the second one, with Tan-Ween.

Example: HAZ-ZIN will work out as: HAA + Fat-Hah = HA; HA + ZAAW + Su-Koon = HAZ; HAZ + ZAAW + Tan-Ween = HAZZIN.

Do not spell orally. Read each combination as one full unit:

Mixed Exercise

LESSON 23

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Example: HAZ-ZIN will work out as: HAA + Fat-Hah = HA; HA + ZAAW + Su-Koon = HAZ; HAZ + ZAAW + Tan-Ween = HAZZIN.

Do not spell orally. Read each combination as one full unit:

Mixed Exercise
LESSON 24
SHAD-DAH WITH VERTICAL FAT-HAH

In the following Exercise, the Ee-Raab of the last letter has been changed from Tan-Ween to a Vertical Fat-Hah. Therefore while all other rules will remain the same, the last letter alone will be read long and slow, as required by the use of a Long Movement. The same principle will apply to the Vertical Kas-Rah in the next lesson, as well as to the 'inverted' Dam-Mah in the lesson after it. Please do not spell orally:

1 سويّاً، عتّلِيّاً، كّودّاً، صّمّاً، شقّاً

Mixed Exercise

2 آلَ آلِ سَوْ ٓمَّ ٓثَرَ ٓعَنَّ لَقٓ

3 آنَّاهِهَ، فَسْؤُومَهُنَّ، يَنَٰنَ الْظَّلَّيْمَيِّنَ، بَلِ الْأَذْرَكَ

4 لَعَنْنُهُمْ، فَتَلَقَّى، سَمُّعُونَ، أَحْلُونَ، جَنُّتِ

5 وَاَلْدُ رَيْبَ، قَلِيَّ الْلَّهَمَ، يَلِيُّ، قَلِيُّ، جَنُّتِ

LESSON 25
SHAD-DAH WITH VERTICAL KAS-RAH

Examples of Shad-Dah with vertical Kas-Rah are given in the next lesson.

6 بيَّ بِيَّ نِيَّ هِيَّ، ثَيْبِيَّنَ
LESSON 26

JOINING THREE LETTERS TOGETHER IN SOUND

Shad-Dah can be used to join the sound of many letters together. In the following Exercise please note how THREE Different letters have been joined together in sound by means of the Shad-Dah being used on the appropriate letter:

1. عَلَمْ رُشْمَ مُسْتَت كَنَّذ فَذَن
2. عَلَمْتِناَ سَمْرُ الرَّشْمَ مُسْتَتَمْ، وَ لِكَنَّ
3. الْبَرْرِ فِي الْدُّنْيَا وَ الْعَالَمِ عُلِّيْمْتِاَ فُسْقِيْحَمَ
4. أَحْزَرْتِيَ صَرْفُتِاَ تَبَشْرُتُمْ، يَلِسْلُمْ يُمْكِنُ
5. وَحَدَّهَا أَشَمَّارَتْ وَ لِكَذَا يَشَرَّكَآ أَلْقَارَانَ يَلِيْمَ كُرِ
6. فَعَلَا رَبِّي صَنِّهَا رَدَّا حَوَوَ إِيَّاا لَمَأ
7. فُعَالَ رِبَانِيْنَ أَفَاضَ النَّاسُ ذُكَرَى المَدَار
8. كَفَوَيْنِيَ رِبَاتَ آلاَخُنَّا لَتَبَوَّوْ وَالمَدَاوَرَ قَهْرُأ
9. كَلاَ لَوَارْكَةَ يِمَأْمَ سَتَارُ رَزَانِ ضَرْرَأ
10. جِبْوَلْ مُشَّوْ كَوْلُوْ يِبَّيْوِ نِيْوُ آيُو لَوُو
Mixed Exercise

1. يَجْبُوْنَكَةٌ، ذِينَ هُمُ النَّقْوَة، حَوَاءٌ يُوَنَّ
2. بِتَفْتَكُوْنَ، نَسِيْوَنَ، كَوْلَا، خَدِمُوا، أَيْوَنَب
3. رَاكِيْمُونَ، حُمُوا، فَوْقُكُمُ الطُّورٍ، يَطْنُنَّ
4. ضَلِّيلٌ سُوَيْيٌ مُشَيٌّ تَلَّي حَيْيٌ رَأَيْي

Mixed Exercise

5. مِنِ المُسَيْلِينَ، يُوَوَوَ السَّيِّئَينَ، فَأَذْلِكَ الْشَّيْطَانُ
6. مِنْكُمْ، كَوَاءَ عَشَيْتُمْ، طَفِيقًا، يُزْجِكُم

7. نَصْدَ، وَدْل، بِيْلَي، نَسَيَي، يَذَّلَّ مَطَوَّأ

Mixed Exercise

8. لَنْتَصَدَّى، يَوْهَا، نَزِيْئًا، يَعْمَلُوْنَ السَّيِّئَاتِ
9. وَلَيْلًا نَزِيْئًا، يَذَّرُّوْنَ، يَأْتُيَهَا الْمَرْزِيْلُ
10. لَيْبَايَا لِلْمُصْدَّرِ، ذَرَيَّةٌ، قَأْطَرُوْنَ، يَصِدُّنَّ نَكَّ
LESSON 27

JOINING FOUR LETTERS

Appropriate use of Shad-Dah helps to join the sound of FOUR letters together:

Mixed Exercise:

1. إنَّ اللَّهَ يَعْبُدُ الْمُحْبِينَ.  
2. يُؤْتُ الْصَّبِيرَةَ يَلَاءَ.  
3. أَتُّبِعُونَ الْظَّلِيمِينَ.

4. لَطْيِّرَانِ. تَرْفُقُوا. يَلِصُّمُ. وَرَزَّاتٌ. وَنِسْلُ.

Mixed Exercise:

5. قَالُوا صَبِيرُنا. شَجَرَتُ الْزَّقُورِ. مُحْيِي الصِّنَادِيقِ.  
6. هُوَ الْزَّقُورُ. لَيْوَنُ الْاَلْذِي بَرَزَ.  
7. إِنَّ السَّمَعَ. بِالْقُطُّ النَّارِ. وَالْرَّكَابُ الْيَوْمِ. أَجِبَتُ.  
8. بِغُضُبِ الْسَّيِّبَاتِ. عَلَيهِنَّ. أَكَامَ الْعَوَّادُ. الرَّجِيمُ.  

9. مَشَّنَلَ. رَيَّنَنَّ. كَيْمَسَّ النَّزِينَ كَفْرُوًا.
LESSON 28

If a certain letter has TAN-WEEN (double Fat-Hah, double Kas-Rah, double Dam-Mah) on it, and it has to be joined to a letter carrying a Shad-Dah, the Tan-Ween will be treated for the purpose of reading, like a single movement. The resultant sound, therefore will not contain the sound of a Noon which is the characteristic of Tan-Ween. Example ‘Faa. + Double Dam-Mah + Raaw + Shad-Dah + Fat-Hah’ will be read as FUR-RA without the sound of a Noon, and not as FUN-RA, with Noon. Unless the letter with the Shad-Dah happens to be a Noon, in which case the sound of Noon is bound to come.

If the letter bearing the Shad-Dah is a MEEM, then the Noon of Tan-Ween will be replaced by a Meem too. For example Bln+Meem +Shad-Dah+ Kas-Rah will be read as Bim-MI and not as Bln-MI;

If the letter with the Shad-Dah is a vowel, and not a consonant, then the sound produced will be a NASAL one. In the example Rln+Waaaw + Shad-Dah the Noon of the Tan-Ween will be merged in the sound of the Waa-W in such a way, as to produce a clear and strong nasal sound. In the examples below the correct pronunciation is: TinWWA, RlnWWA, AnWWA, MunWWA etc and it is quite wrong to say: RIYYA (I sounding like the one in Fine), TIIYYA, YIYYU etc:

Mixed Exercise

آذَّي لِبَخ - وَسَطَهَا يَطْكُو نَا - رَءَوَّ فَ رَجِيمُ - ۲۴۸ - نَفْضِि - ۵ - نُحْكِرَ
نَسْلُهَا - نَجَّيُّهَا - لَمْ يَلْعَبْنَهَا

جَنَّتُوْهَا وَغَيْبَوْهَا - ذَٰلِكَ أَنتَ - كَنْبَرُ كَنْبَرَةُ

حَيِّيُّهَا وَعَسَاقُهَا - سَابِقَانَا يَقْفُواْ - مَكَرُواْ يَبْعَثُونَا وَيَدْعُونَا

ذَٰلِكَ نَزَّلَهُ فِي نُوحٍ - مَكَرُّهُ نَزِيرٌ بَرَأْنَا

خَيْرُ يُوْفِقَ مَعْنَىٰ مُرَسَّلٍ لِّلَّذِينَ آمَنُواْ - هُدْىٰ وَيَقُولُنَّ بِنِسَابٍ مُّقَدِّمٍ

عَدَّتِي مُفَتَّحَةٌ لَّهُمُ الْبَابُ - بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ وَعَوَّاِشُ آيَاؤُهُمُّ بِنَزْيَةٍ مُّقَدِّمٍ - إِذَا لَّا

خَيْرًا مِّنْهُمْ نُورًا نَفْحِي - ذَٰكَرُ لِلْمُتَلَفِّينَ

فَوْعَلَ يَوْمَ يُسْتَرِكُونَ لَنْمُكَرْسِيْنَ - قَوْمًا مِّنْ قَوْمِهِ

أَخْحَصُواْ رَأْيَةً - تَمَرَّةً رَزْقًا - عَزَّتِيْنَ يَشْرَبُونَ

لَوْ لَمْ كُنُّواْ مَكْتُوبُونَ - مَجَنُونًا وَأَزْدَّتِيْنَ - جَحَتِيْنَ تُغَفِّرْ
LESSON 29

JOINING FIVE LETTERS

Through the use of the Shad-Dah, sometimes not less than FIVE letters are joined together. See how in the following example, the ultimate result of joining five letters is obtained by a gradual step-by-step process:
LESSON 30
JOINING SIX LETTERS TOGETHER

Shad-Dah has been found in the Qur’an to join as many as SIX letters together. Once again the process is traced step by step in the following example. Note the number of Shad-Dahs used to produce the ultimate effect of joining the sound of six letters. Besides the one mentioned below, there is most probably, only one more example of this kind in the Qur’an. It is mentioned in the next lesson, along with a couple of other examples, which even though slightly different, fall under the same general and broad category:

1. رَلُّ رَلُّ رَلُّ رَلُّ رَلُّ رَلُّ
2. في بَخْـرِ رَلُّ رَلُّ رَلُّ

LESSON 31
ID-GHAAM

Sometimes a SAA-KIN letter is found sandwiched between a letter with a full movement and another with a Shad-Dah. In a case like that the SAA-KIN letter will be completely disregarded, and the first letter will be joined directly with the last letter, which has Shad-Dah on it. In the examples below:

don’t read: QAd-TA; read Qat-TA. Don’t read: WAd-TU; read WAt-TU.

Should the SAA-KIN letter be a NOON, and the letter with the sign of Shad-Dah be a vowel and not a consonant, a clear nasal sound should be forthcoming. For instance, it is wrong to read: MIWWA, MIYYA ('I' to sound like the one in NIL) and LIYYA ('I' to sound like the one in FINE). The correct way of reading is:

MInWWA, MInYYA and LIInYYA.
Mixed Exercise

1. صُمَّوْا، أَوْ أَوْلَٰدُكُمْ لَقَاتُوْلُ هُدُّلِّي وُؤْوِيَ
2. يَسْأَلُونَكُمْ عَنْ نَأْبَأِكُمْ أَنَّ يُمِينُ وَيَنْتَهُ
3. عَنْ مَنْ يُنَبِّئُنَّكُمْ مَا هُمْ كَانُوا كَبَمَ

Mixed Exercise

4. قَدْ تُجْزَأَتُ الرُّسُلُ. رَأَوْا ذَٰلِكَ. إِذَا ظَلَّمُوا أُحْكَمْتُ
5. يَكُن لَّهُمْ. مَن لَّدُنْكُمْ عُصِيَّةً وَكَذَّابًا. هَلْ لَّنَسَا
6. عَفَواَوَقَالُوا تَسْتَطِيطُ عَلَيْهِمْ أَوْ اِلْيَوْمَ نُصَرُّوا

Mixed Exercise

7. مِنُ وَرَأَيْهِمْ. مَن يَنْتَصِرُوا لَن يَصَرُّوا عَلَى اللَّهِ
8. عِنْمَا. مَنْ نَكِثَ لَن يَوْمَ يُجَادِلُوا مِنْ وَلِيٍّ
9. فِي مَلْكِ الْحُرُمِ يُتَبَيَّنُ ازْكِبَ مَعَنَا. لَن يَدْخُلَ حَنَمَ

Mixed Exercise

10. مِن يَوْمِ. مَنْ مَأْءِلٍ مَنْ وَالِيِّ مِن وَجُوَّادٍ
1. أن تُحْيِي عِيْنَاءَ الْمُوَّلِينَ. عَمْرُو بْنُ سَعْد، فَلَّا أَسْتَنْفَعُكَ
2. لَنْ يُعْجِبَنَّ. يَـمُرُّ وَرَّاحِي. أَن لَّيُسِنَّ. أَن لَّا. إِنْ تَأْمُر،
3. عَبْدُكَ. فَلْيُرْبِّهِ. مَنْ يُمْلَىً. إِن مَّسَّهُ الْسَّلْطَ.
4. يُنَبِّئُنَّ لَكَ. مَن يُشْيِعُ. يَوْجُفْهُ. أَمْئَنْ أَلْيَهْدُ
5. يُهُدُّهُ لَا أَن يُفْهِدُ ي. نَطْقَةَ يِنْمَيْنِ يُعْمَنِ
6. قُلْ لَنْ يُصْبِيبُنَا. عَن مَّن يُشَاءُ. لَكُمْ يَـنَ
7. مَلْكُكُمْ وَمَا فِيهِ. مَـن يُنْقِبُ. يَأْتِيَكُمْ
8. يِنْنِي بِنْيَىٰ فَهُمْ مِن مَّغَرْفِهِ مَفْتَقَلُونْ
9. كَأَنْ يِنْنِي بَيْنِي. مَنْ رَبِّي رَحْبِي. عَلِيْ هَذَا
10. يِنْنِي رَحْبِي. مَمْجِمُ. أَمْمَ مِمْنَ مَعَكَ
11. لَكُمْ. يَخْلُفْكُمْ قَبْلَ مَمْلِيٰ. تَهْلِفُنَّ
If one of the following six letters comes after a SAA-KIN NOON or Tan-Ween, the noon will be pronounced sharp, quick and clear:

If on the other hand, the Saa-Kin Noon or Tan-Ween is followed by one of the following letters, the reader must pronounce the Noon softly and linger over its sound for a while:

**LESSON 32**

If a letter with the sign of MAD-DAH on it is followed by either a SAA-KIN or MUSHAD-DAD letter (a letter bearing a Shad-Dah), prolong the sound of the Mad-Dah to its full and natural length (Equal to counting 1,2,3,4) and then join it with the SAA-KIN or Mushad-Dad letter, as the case may be, which comes after it. In all the following examples lengthen the sound of the Mad-Dah fully before joining it with the Mushad-Dad letter next to it:

**Mixed Exercise**

If a letter with the sign of MAD-DAH on it is followed by either a SAA-KIN or MUSHAD-DAD letter (a letter bearing a Shad-Dah), prolong the sound of the Mad-Dah to its full and natural length (Equal to counting 1,2,3,4) and then join it with the SAA-KIN or Mushad-Dad letter, as the case may be, which comes after it. In all the following examples lengthen the sound of the Mad-Dah fully before joining it with the Mushad-Dad letter next to it:
Some Surahs (chapters) of the Qur’an begin with one or more letters of the Alphabet, written all by themselves. Sometimes they have no Ee-Raab, and sometimes they have either a Vertical Fat-Hah or a Mad-Dah. They are called the MU-QAT-TA-AAT. The experts have given various interpretations as regards the meaning and the purpose of these letters.

Some say that they are merely the names of the Surahs. Others are of the opinion that they are like warning notes sounded in the beginning of certain Surahs to arrest and focus the attention of the reader (or listener) on some extremely provocative and challenging statements made by the Qur’an immediately after them. Yet others insist that
they are one of Al-Laah’s closely kept secrets, and Al-Laah alone is best aware of their meaning, content and purpose. This view is supported by the Hadith in which the Prophet, Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam, is quoted as saying, that these were Al-Laah’s secrets and their meaning was known only to Him. One point about which all the scholars and experts agree, however, is that these letters are not there without any meaning or purpose.

One of the latest and most significant attempts to study the meaning of the MU-QAT-TA-AAT has come from an American-based Egyptian scientist who, after a highly analytical computerised study, reportedly argues that they are extremely important miniaturised codes, which provide the key to the text as well as the content of the entire Qur’an. In any case Al-Laah - the All-Knower - knows best.

The number of the letters, barring repetitions, which have been used in this way at the beginning of the Soo-rahs, is fourteen - half the number of the total letters of the Alphabet. They are: A-Lif, Laam, Meem, Saawd, Raaw, Kaaf, Haa, Yaa, Aine, Taaw, Seen, Haa, Qaawf and Noon.

These letters have been used in the Qur’an in Ones, Twos, Threes, Fours and Fives. Those which have been used as Single letters are:

SAAWD (سحد) QAAWF (قءوف) and NOON (نون)

Since all these letters carry a Mad-Dah, please read them as:

SAAAAWD (صحد) QAAAAWF (قءءوف) and NOOOON (ننون)

Those which have been used in groups of Two are:

TAAW-HAA (تاءهاء) TAAW-SEEN (تاءسین) YAA-SEEN (یاءسین) and HA-A-MEEM (حاءميم).

Those which have been used in groups of Three are:

ALIF-LAAM-MEEM (اَلِیـفـلَامِـم) ALIF-LAAM-RAAW (اَلِیـفـلَامِـرَاء) and TA-AW-SEEN-MEEM (تاؤسینميم).

Those which have been used in groups of FOUR are:

ALIF-LAAM-MEEM-SAAWD (اَلِیـفـلَامِـمـسحد) and ALIF-LAAM-MEEM-RAAW (اَلِیـفـلَامِـمـرَاء).
In the Exercise below read out the names of the letters clearly and according to the Ee-Raab they carry, A-Lif has no Ee-Raab on it, therefore read it as 'A-LIF'.

As regards the rest of the letters, please bear in mind that the sound represented by the Mad-Dah is two times as long as that represented by the vertical Fat-Hah. If you lengthen the sound of a letter carrying a vertical Fat-Hah to be equal to two A's as in Haa, then please lengthen the sound of Mad-Dah to be equal to the use of Four A's like Saaawd. The same applies to vertical Kas-Rah and inverted Dam-Mah as well.

Certain letters are followed by Mushad-Dad letters (those bearing the sign of Shad-Dah). Lengthen the sound of the letter preceding a Mushad-Dad letter and merge it into the sound of the latter, so as to ensure a smooth flow of sounds. The correct way of pronouncing is not Taaw-Seen-Meem but, Taaw-Seem-Meem. The Noon at the end of Seen will be replaced by Meem. The right pronunciations are given underneath in finer print:

Those which have been used in groups of Five are:
KAAF-HAA-YAA-AINE-SAAWD (کحیصسف) and
HAA-MEEM-AINE-SEEN-QAAWF (حمسفن) .

In the Exercise below read out the names of the letters clearly and according to the Ee-Raab they carry, A-Lif has no Ee-Raab on it, therefore read it as 'A-LIF'.

As regards the rest of the letters, please bear in mind that the sound represented by the Mad-Dah is two times as long as that represented by the vertical Fat-Hah. If you lengthen the sound of a letter carrying a vertical Fat-Hah to be equal to two A's as in Haa, then please lengthen the sound of Mad-Dah to be equal to the use of Four A's like Saaawd. The same applies to vertical Kas-Rah and inverted Dam-Mah as well.

Certain letters are followed by Mushad-Dad letters (those bearing the sign of Shad-Dah). Lengthen the sound of the letter preceding a Mushad-Dad letter and merge it into the sound of the latter, so as to ensure a smooth flow of sounds. The correct way of pronouncing is not Taaw-Seen-Meem but, Taaw-Seem-Meem. The Noon at the end of Seen will be replaced by Meem. The right pronunciations are given underneath in finer print:

Those which have been used in groups of Five are:
KAAF-HAA-YAA-AINE-SAAWD (کحیصسف) and
HAA-MEEM-AINE-SEEN-QAAWF (حمسفن) .

In the Exercise below read out the names of the letters clearly and according to the Ee-Raab they carry, A-Lif has no Ee-Raab on it, therefore read it as 'A-LIF'.

As regards the rest of the letters, please bear in mind that the sound represented by the Mad-Dah is two times as long as that represented by the vertical Fat-Hah. If you lengthen the sound of a letter carrying a vertical Fat-Hah to be equal to two A's as in Haa, then please lengthen the sound of Mad-Dah to be equal to the use of Four A's like Saaawd. The same applies to vertical Kas-Rah and inverted Dam-Mah as well.

Certain letters are followed by Mushad-Dad letters (those bearing the sign of Shad-Dah). Lengthen the sound of the letter preceding a Mushad-Dad letter and merge it into the sound of the latter, so as to ensure a smooth flow of sounds. The correct way of pronouncing is not Taaw-Seen-Meem but, Taaw-Seem-Meem. The Noon at the end of Seen will be replaced by Meem. The right pronunciations are given underneath in finer print:
LESSON 34

Sometimes, a letter with Tan-Ween on it, is followed by an A-Lif. The A-Lif which may have Fat-Hah or Kas-Rah, may be followed by either a Saa-Kin or Mushad-Dad letter. In a case like that, the Noon of the Tan-Ween is given a Kas-Rah (so that it sounds like 'NI'), the Ee-Raab of the A-Lif is removed, and the Noon (with Kas-Rah on it) is then directly joined with the letter immediately after the A-Lif. The name of this Noon is Noon Qut-nee.

We know that in the case of the Tan-Ween being double Fat-Hah it is customary to add an extra A-Lif to the letter bearing the double Fat-Hah. When a letter bearing the Tan-Ween, double Fat-Hah is joined in the manner outlined above, the extra A-Lif will lose its sound-value. In the examples below the A-Lif preceding the little NOON will have no sound effect. It will be treated for the purpose of reading as completely silent or non-existent:

LESSON 35

If a Saa-Kin Noon, or a letter with Tan-Ween is followed by the letter BAA, the sound of Noon in both cases will be replaced by the sound of MEEM. It is customary to place a small Meem on top of such letters to indicate that the sound of Noon here will give way to the sound of Meem. This rule, however, applies only when the Noon coming before the letter BAA has a ‘Su-Koon’ on it. If it happens to have a full Ee-Raab, the Noon will retain its original sound, even if it is followed by BAA.

In the following examples replace the sound of Noon with that of Meem:
LESSON 36

STOPS AND SIGNS IN THE QUR'AN

In order to stop: replace the Ee-Raab of the last letter, in a sentence, Aa-Yah or given combination of letters, with Su-koon and join it in sound with the nearest letter before it which may possess a full Ee-Raab. For example:

RU-SU-LI ( compétent) when stopped will be read as Ru-SUL ( compétent).

If the last letter already has Su-Koon on it, the Su-Koon will stay in place when the stop sign is applied to it. For example: QUL ( compétent) when stopped will still be read as QUL.

If the letter immediately before the last letter has Su-Koon on it, the last letter will still be given a Su-Koon and joined with the letter preceding the Saa-Kin letter. Thus while applying a stop, two Su-Koons may be found to go together i.e. one after the other. Example: YOO-QWI-NOON-NA will be read as YOO-QWI-NOON, both the Waa-W and the Noon having Su-Koon on them.

Whenever a stop is applied to the round Taa ( ) its sound will be transformed into that of a HAA. Example: ( compétent) Quw-wa-tun when stopped will be read as ( compétent) QUW-WAH, and not as QUW-WAT. The long Taa will however continue to produce the sound of Taa, even when a stop is applied to it.

When a stop is applied to the letter carrying a double Fat-Hah, the A-Lif which goes with the double Fat-Hah customarily, will retain its sound-value. In other words the A-Lif will serve the purpose of a long vowel and lengthen the sound of the letter. Example: RA-QWEE-BAN ( compétent) when stopped will sound like RA-QWEE-BAA.

If the last letter itself happens to be an A-Lif, then it will produce its normal sound when the stop is applied to it.
If the last letter is a YAA and the letter just before it has a double Fat-hah then the Yaa will be transformed into an A-Lif when the stop is applied to it. Example ( مَلَّ ) DU-HAN will be read as DU-HAA.

Here are some of the stop signs normally used in the Qur’an;

( o ) symbolises the completion of an Aa-Yah. Usually indicates a complete stop.

( o ) means a compulsory stop. If the stop sign here is disregarded, the meaning of the Aa-Yah may be affected.

( o ) indicates a full stop, even though the Aa-Yah itself is yet to be completed.

( o ) denotes that it is better to stop, while to proceed without stopping is permitted.

In the following examples practise how to apply the various stop signs:

1. مَلَّ
2. هَوْ، فَنَسِيّ
3. يَفْتَقُونَ
4. أُمَؤُورُ
5. عِبَادُو الْمُكَفَّرِاءَ
Here are some more of the different signs used in the Qur’an.

( 786 ) While it is preferable not to stop at this point a stop is permitted.

( 787 ) While a stop is permitted, it is better not to stop.

( 788 ) It is better not to stop here.

( 789 ) It is better not to stop here.

( 790 ) Stop at this sign. The word ( قف ) means stop.

( 791 ) Means the same as ‘ditto’ in English. What applied to previous sign will also apply here.

( 792 ) Pause at this sign for a moment and hold your breath, then continue in the same breath.

( 793 ) Same as ( س ) or ( سک ) Pause without breaking the breath. But the pause at ( وقف ) is longer than the pause at ( س / سک ).
(ز) A stop suggested by the scholars. It is better not to stop here.

(ن) Means no. This sign is sometimes used above the sign of Aa-Yah (א) and sometimes in the text itself without the sign of Aa-Yah.

Whenever it is used all by itself in the text, it means that it is wrong to stop at that point. There is a difference of opinion as to how it should be read when it is used above the sign of the Aa-Yah. Some say that it is best to stop, while others hold the opposite view. However in either case the meaning is not affected in any way. The important point to be borne in mind is that while it is used directly in the text it is wrong to stop at that point.

(ع) Indicates the end of a Rukoo. A Rukoo in the Qur’an is roughly equal to what is called a section or paragraph in English. The rukoo is indicated in the margin by writing a small (ع).

(جم) Whenever the Aa-Yah with this sign is recited it is required of the person reciting it, as well as of anyone who may be listening to it, to make a Saj-dah or prostration. There are 14 such places in the Qur’an where a Saj-dah is due.

(جزء) The Qur’an is divided into thirty parts. Each part is called JUZ. The word in the margin indicates the beginning of a new Juz.

(ربع) Indicates the first quarter of a Juz.

(نصف) Indicates half of the Juz.

(ثلثة) Indicates three quarters of the Juz.

(منزل) For the sake of convenient reading the Qur’an is divided into seven equal parts. Each part is called a Manzil and it is indicated in the margin by writing the word (منزل).
It was mentioned earlier that the sign of the Aa-Yah sometimes contains a Laam-A-Lif written on it, like this:  

This indicates a choice for the reader, either:

a) to treat it as a stop and stop at it; or

b) to proceed without stopping to the next Aa-Yah and read it as if it were a continuation of the first one.

If the reader is not stopping at the Aa-Yah, he will join the last letter of the first Aa-Yah with the first letter of the second one, in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth in the earlier lessons. Should he decide to stop, he will have to begin to read the next Aa-Yah in one of the following three ways:

**FIRST WAY**: If the first letter of the second Aa-Yah carries a Shad-Dah disregard the sign of the Shad-Dah and read the letter with the other ordinary Ee-Raab that it may contain. In the following examples, the right pronunciation is given in fine print below each example:

1.  غَفُورٌ أَجْمَعُ وَأَلْحَصُّ ، كُلَّ كَفَرٍ عَلَى مَلَكِيّ (طرَامْشَا نَكْنَكْ)  
2.  مَنَاعَ لَبُخَيرٍ وَجُودَ بُومِيْنَ تَآِ عَمَّآ ِضَعْمَا (كَابِنَةَ البْخَيْمَا)  
3.  رَأِيَّةُ فيُ بِجَنْسِ كَانِيّ لا تَسْمَعَ ، وَلَا يَسْكُنُ (رَأِيَّةَ البْخَيْمَا)  
4.  حَيْمِيْنَ كَحْيَمًا يُبَصَّرُوْ نَهْمُ ، إِلاَّ قَلَيْلًا يُضَفْهُ (كَحْيَمَةَ البْخَيْمَا)
SECOND WAY: If the second Aa-Yah begins with an A-Lif-Laam or with a little Noon with Kas-Rah on it (Noon Qut-Nee, the one acquired as a result of giving a Kas-Rah to the Noon of the Tan-ween) disregard the existence of the little Noon and read the A-Lif with Fat-Hah. The correct pronunciation is indicated below:

1. إِيَهَّ مُنَّ رَبِّ الْعَلَمَيْنَا لَرَحْمَتِ الرَّحِيمِ
2. فَقَلَّا أَقْسِمُ بِالْحَمْسِ أَنَّا أَلْجَوَأْ نَكَّنَّهُ رَأَمَّ ذَاتِ
3. الْيَمَّةُ أَنَّا أَلْجَوَأْ نَكَّنَّهُ هُدَا يَنْمُيْنِيِّينَ أَلْزِينَ
4. عَرَضَنَا أَلْزِينَ. خَيْرًا أَلْزِينَ يَمْهَأَيْنَ يُومًا يَيْتُ
5. أَلْوَنَأَنَّ نَهِبَّةِ أَلْسَمَانَ. مَعَكَ مَرْيَمَ بْنِيَلْوَيْ

In the first Aa-Yah of Soo-Rah 3, if a stop is applied to the Meem the A-Lif of Al-Laah will be read with Fat-Hah on it, like: A-Lif-Laam Meem Al-Laahu. If on the other hand a stop is not applied to the Meem, then the Su-Koon of the Meem will be turned into a Fat-Hah and directly joined with the Laam of Al-Laah. The A-Lif will become silent. The right way to read will be: A-Lif-Laam-Mee-Mal-Laa-Hu, and not A-Lif-Laam-Mee-Mal-Laa-Hu. In other words it is wrong to read it in such a way that the sound of an extra Meem will come out.
THIRD WAY: The second Aa-Yah may begin with neither an A-Lif-Laam nor with a letter with a Shad-Dah on it. On the other hand it may begin with an ordinary silent A-Lif followed by a Saa-Kin letter. The Saa-Kin letter itself may be followed by a letter with a full Ee-Raab on it. If the Ee-Raab of this letter which follows Saa-Kin letter is Dam-Mah, then the A-Lif will be read with Dam-Mah too. If the Ee-Raab of this letter is either Fat-Hah or Kas-Rah, the A-Lif will be read with Kas-Rah. If there is a little Noon (Noon Qut-Neen) underneath the A-Lif, that Noon will be disregarded completely and the reading will then begin with the A-Lif. The correct pronunciation in each case is indicated below:

LESSON 37

In Soo-Rah 11, Aa-Yah 41, the word ( ) will be read in a very special way. The letter RAAW here carries a vertical Kas-Rah and as such it should be read as ‘REE’ which is the natural sound of the long vowel with Yaa. But instead of producing its natural sound, the vertical Kas-Rah in this example alone will produce a sound like that of the letter
'A' in BABY. The word here will therefore be read as Maj-RAY-Haa, and not as Maj-REE-Haa. This is the only example of its kind in the Qur'an and this principle is called I-Maa-Lah.

LESSON 38

In some places in the Qur'an a tiny Seen is placed directly above the letter Saawd which occurs in certain words. This means that the reader has the choice of reading that particular letter either as SAAWD or as SEEN. Those places are:

1. Soo-Rah 2: Aa-Yah 245
2. Soo-Rah 7: Aa-Yah 69
3. Soo-Rah 52: Aa-Yah 37
4. Soo-Rah 88: Aa-Yah 22

In Soo-Rah 21: Aa-Yah 88 the two Noons in the expression (Nunji) are written in the following manner ( ). This however is only a matter pertaining to the script, and it has nothing to do either with the meaning or the pronunciation of the word.

The Mu-Shad-Dad Laam in the word is read either heavy or light, depending on the Ee-raab the A-Lif, or the letter immediately before the A-Lif, carries. If the A-Lif has Fat-Hah on it, the Laam will be read heavy and full. Example: = Al-law-hu. If the A-Lif is silent, even then the Laam will be read heavy and full, provided the letter immediately before the A-Lif, has a Fat-Hah or Dam-Mah on it.

Examples: and If, on the other hand, the letter before the A-Lif has Kas-Rah, the Laam will be read thin and light.

Example: . Further, whenever these two words are preceded by a letter with full Ee-Raab on it, that letter will be joined
directly with the Laam of these two words, and the A-Lif will become silent, as illustrated in the above examples.

**LESSON 39**

We have learnt in Lesson 10 that if an A-Lif without an Ee-Raab of its own, follows a letter with Fat-Hah, it helps to make the sound of that letter long and slow, like: `جا فا`

We have also learnt in Lessons 19 and 23 that if such an A-Lif is followed by either a Saa-Kin or Mu-shad-Dad letter immediately after, such an A-Lif will lose its sound completely and become silent, as in the examples: `وأَلْلٌهُ قَارِعً`

But there are some places in the Qur’an where this A-Lif is found to have a letter with Fat-Hah before it, and is not followed either by a Saa-Kin or Mu-shad-Dad letter after it, and yet it loses its sound value completely. In these special places, which should be considered exceptions, even though the A-Lif is found in a situation where normally speaking it should be given its due sound, it is not actually pronounced. In some of these places giving the A-Lif its sound will even jeopardise the meaning. In all these instances the A-Lif should be regarded as an additional or extra letter and should be treated as silent and completely soundless.

Those places where an extra A-Lif is written, but not pronounced, are as under:

1. ( آفائش مان ) Soo-Rah 3, Aal Im-Raan: Aa-Yah 144
2. ( لا إِلَى اللّهِ ) Soo-Rah 3, Aal Im-Raan: Aa-Yah 158
3. ( ان نَبَأْا ) Soo-Rah 5, Al-Maa-I-dah: Aa-Yah 29
4. ( من نبَأي ) Soo-Rah 6, Al-An-Aam: Aa-Yah 34
Besides the above examples, wherever the word (ملائیل) occurs in the Qur’an, it has been written with an extra A-Lif which is not given a sound while reading. Similarly the word (ان) is invariably
written with an A-Lif after the Noon, but that A-Lif never comes to be pronounced and the word (א) is always read as A-NA (א) as if the second A-Lif is never there.

It will be a good idea to trace all the above-mentioned places in your own copy of the Mus-Haf (Qur'an) and put a small mark like (x), just above the A-Lif in each case.

LESSON 40

There are fourteen Aa-yaat in the Qur'an, where a Saj-dah or prostration in the formal prescribed Islamic manner, is warranted. Whenever a person recites one of these Aa-yaat, or one of these Aa-yaat is recited within his hearing, it is required of him to do the following:

Face Quib-lah (direction of the Kaa-bah):

Say Al-Laa-hu Ak-Bar:

Make Saj-dah:

Say “Sub-haa-na Rab-bi-yal Aa-laa” three times;
and raise his head from the Saj-dah, saying Al-Laa-hu Ak-bar.

The FOURTEEN Aa-yaat which call for a Saj-dah, are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOO-RAH</th>
<th>NO.</th>
<th>AA-YAH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Al-Aa-Raaf</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Ar-Raad</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. An-Nahl</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Ba-nee Is-Raa-Eel</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Mar-Yam</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Al-Hajj</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
While every word of the Qur'an should be read most carefully, and with all possible regard to the pronunciation as well as the Ee-Raab (vowels), there are some places in particular regarding which the experts and scholars (Ula-maa) have sounded a special note of warning. These Aa-yaat should be read even more carefully than the other ones. To change the Ee-Raab or the vowels in some of these places could affect and change the meaning so radically that the person doing it may actually be committing an act of Kufr or Disbelief.

For example the words (1:6) mean: “Those whom YOU have blessed”. If the Fat-Hah on the ت is replaced by Dam-Mah, the meaning becomes: “Those whom I have blessed”. If the Fat-Hah is changed to Kas-Rah, the meaning changes to: “Those whom you (Feminine Gender) have blessed”.

Similarly, the Aa-Yah, (2:261) means: “Al-Laah gives manifold increase to whom He pleases”. If the Kas-Rah of the أن is changed to Fat-Hah, the meaning becomes: “Al-Laah is multiplied and doubled”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOO-RAH</th>
<th>NO.</th>
<th>AA-YAH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.  Al-Fur-Qaawn</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.  An-Naml</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.  As-Sajdah</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. As-Saawd</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Haa-Meem As-Saj-dah</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. An-Najm</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Al-In-Shi Qaawq</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
These are such blasphemous ideas that the whole structure of the Heaven and earth will shudder and tremble at the mere thought of being a party to giving utterance to them. Such is their monstrosity and seriousness. If a person utters them deliberately and willfully, then there is hardly any question as to his origin and background. Such a person cannot be imagined to have the least love, regard or fear for his Creator. He is a most reprehensible Blasphemer and Disbeliever.

But if a person makes these mistakes unknowingly, even then it may well be demanded of him as to how was it that he never took the trouble or spent the time and effort required to learn to read the Qur’an in the proper and correct way! Especially as Almighty Al-Laah has made this Qur’an so easy and simple to learn and to remember.

However, if someone makes a good effort to learn to read the Qur’an properly, but still he is not able to master the art of reading, such a person will get a double reward from Al-Laah. Some of those places in which the Qur’an should be read with special care and attention, and with the fullest possible regard to the vowels, are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOO-RAH</th>
<th>AA-YAH</th>
<th>WARNING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Al-Faa-ti-hah 1:6</td>
<td>It is a most serious blunder to change the Fat-Hah  of  in  with  ١٠٠٠٠ ; likewise, to change it to Kas-Rah  is also a most serious mistake;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOO-RAH</td>
<td>AA-YAH</td>
<td>WARNING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Al-Ba-qa-rah</td>
<td>2:251</td>
<td>The Dam-Mah ¹ of the second داود in with Fat-Hah ²;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Al-Ba-qa-rah</td>
<td>2:261</td>
<td>The Kas-Rah ³ of ٢ in يضاعف to Fat-Hah ⁴;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. An-Nisaa</td>
<td>4:165</td>
<td>The Kas-Rah ³ of ٣ in ⁵ منзорين to Fat-Hah ⁶;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. At-Taw-bah</td>
<td>9:3</td>
<td>The Dam-Mah ¹ of ⁴ ل in رسولة to Fat-Hah ⁷;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Banee Israa-eel</td>
<td>17:15</td>
<td>The Kas-Rah ³ of ٥ منززين to Fat-Hah ⁶;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Taaw-Haa</td>
<td>20:121</td>
<td>The Fat-Hah ⁸ of ⁹ ب in رتبه to Dam-Mah ¹⁰;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Al-Am-bi-yaa</td>
<td>21:87</td>
<td>The Dam-Mah ¹ of ¹¹ كمك to Fat-Hah ¹²;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Ash-shu-a-raa</td>
<td>26:194</td>
<td>The Kas-Rah ³ of ١٣ منززين to Fat-Hah ⁶;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LESSON 42

SOME IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE QUR’AN

The Qur’an was revealed in a piecemeal fashion, a little at a time, as the time and the occasion demanded, and not all at once.

The entire period during which the Qur’an was revealed is estimated to be around: 22 years; 5 months and 14 days.

The Qur’an was first revealed in the month of Ramadan, during the Night of Glory and Power.

The last Aa-yah was revealed at Arafaat at the time of Hajj.

The Qur’an was revealed through the medium of Angel Jibra-eel.

The Wahy of Revelation came in one of the following ways:

a) Muhammad (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) would hear the sound of a bell ring in his ears and this will be followed by the Aa-Yaat of the Qur’an;

b) The Angel would appear to him in his real form and communicate the Wahy; and

c) The Angel would assume the shape of a human being and speak to him as one man would to another.

11. Al-Hashr 59:24 The Kas-Rah $\frac{:\text{ in}}{\mu}$ حرفٌ to Fat-Hah $\mu$

12. Al-Muz-zam-mil 73:16 The Dam-Mah $\frac{\hat{n}}{\mu}$ درجة to Fat-Hah $\mu$

13. An-Naa-zi-aat 79:45 The Kas-Rah $\frac{\hat{z}}{\mu}$ حرفٌ to Fat-Hah $\mu$

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The first Revelation which came in the month of Ramadan, in the cave of Hiraa was: (96: 1-5).

The last Aa-yah to be revealed was: (5: 3).

Some scholars are of the opinion that the last Revelation was: (2: 281).

There were 40 devoted companions who acted as Scribes or Secretaries for Muhammad. Their duties included writing down the Qur’an as it was revealed.

The Qur’an was given its present order and arrangement by Rasool (صلى الله عليه وسلم) himself under the instruction and supervision of Jibra-eel (عندلله عليه السلام). The Qur’an existed in written form on pages, parchments, leaves and animal bones during the life of the Rasool (صلى الله عليه وسلم). It existed in full and in the form and order in which we know it today. During the lifetime of the Rasool (صلى الله عليه وسلم) itself many followers and companions (sahaabah) had committed the whole Qur’an to memory. Many others knew most of it by heart. They all recited it in their daily prayers and ordered their daily lives according to its injunctions.

The Qur’an is divided into: 7 Manzils
30 Juz
114 Soo-Rahs
6666 Aa-Yaat
77439 Words
321180 Letters

The word (ودستن) in Soo-Rah 18, Aa-Yah 19 constitutes the exact half of the Qur’an.

It is recommended that the Qur’an should be completed in seven days, ten days, thirty days or at least two times a year.

Reading the Qur’an earns a great reward. One must not forget that reading the Qur’an implies reading it as far as possible with understanding and with a view to find out its teachings so that one can put them into practice.
Connecting with the Qur'an: A Scale of Personal Progress

Everyday, every Muslim must ask himself or herself:

1. When did I last see the Qur'an?
2. When did I last touch the Qur'an?
3. When did I last hold the Qur'an in my hand?
4. When did I last open the Qur'an?
5. When did I last turn the pages of the Qur'an?
6. When did I last read any part of the Qur'an?
7. When did I last attempt to learn to read the Qur'an correctly?
8. When did I last attempt to memorize any part of the Qur'an?
9. When did I last attempt to learn the meaning of any of the Aa-Yaat of the Qur'an?

Continued inside cover
10. When did I last reflect on the deeper connotations of any of the *Aa-Yaat* of the Qur'an?

11. When did I last attempt to put *some* of the Qur'an into practice?

12. When did I last ponder ways of putting *all* of the Qur'an into practice?

13. When did I last wonder how Prophet Muhammad, *Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam*, changed the world using the Qur'an?

14. When did I last wonder how he did it within the impossibly short span of 23 years or less?

15. When did I last attempt to teach someone the Qur'an?

16. When did I last invite someone to use this scale for personally connecting with the Qur'an?

*What to do next?*

1. Regardless of where you place on the scale, make a beginning now.

2. Starting from where you place on the scale, move up one level.

3. Continue your progress on the scale and ask Al-Laah for help.

4. Invite someone else to use the scale the way you did.