

Learning Qur'an

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The reciters of Qur'an are three types. The first type take the Qur'an as a merchandise by which to earn their bread; the second type uphold its letters and lose its laws, aggrandizing themselves over the people of their country, and seeking gain through it from the rulers. There are many memorizers of Qur'an that belong to that type. May Allah not increase them. Finally, the third type have sought the healing of the Qur'an and placed it on the sickness of their hearts, fleeing with it to their places of prayer, wrapping themselves in it. Those have felt fear and put on the garment of sadness. Those are the ones for whose sake Allah sends rain and victory over the enemies. By Allah! That kind of memorizer of Qur'an is more rare than red sulphur.

- Al Hasan al-Basri

Learning Qur'an

Adab of reading Qur'an:

- Make wudu
- Use miswak
- Wear clean and pure clothes
- Choose a clean place to sit and face Qibla
- Seek refuge from cursed saitan (Isti'aza)
- Start in the name of Allah the most High (Basmalah)
- Recite with proper devotion as you are reading the words of Allah (SWT)

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Arabic Alphabets

There are 28 letters in the Arabic Alphabet without 'Hamzah'.

ا ب ت ث ج ح خ
د ذ ر ز س ش ص ض
ط ظ ع غ ف ق ك ل م
ن ه و ع ي

There are 8 heavy letters.

خ ر ص ض ط ظ غ ق

Rest of them are light letters.

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Arabic Alphabet with sound

Arabic Letter	Sound	Example in Arabic
ا	Alif	Allah
ء	Hamzah	
ب	Ba	Bismillah
ت	Ta	Tilawat
ث	<u>Tha</u> a	Sowab
ج	Jeem	Jamat
ح	<u>H</u> aa	Halal
خ	Kho	Khutba
د	Daal	Dua
ذ	<u>Z</u> haal	Jikr
ر	Ro	Ruku
ز	Za or Zain	Zakat
س	Seen	Sijda
ش	Sheen	Shukur
ص	Sod	Salat
ض	Dod	Duha

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ط	To	Towaf
ظ	Tho	Zuhr
ع	'Ain	Eid
غ	Ghoain	Ghosol
ف	Faa	Fil
ق	Qof	Qur'an
ك	Kaaf	Kaba
ل	Laam	Labbaik
م	Meem	Masjid
ن	Noon	Noor
ه	Haa	Hidaya
و	Waw	Wahid
ي	Yaa	Yasin

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The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "The best among you (Muslims) are those who learn the Qur'an and teach it." (Sahih al-Bukhari)

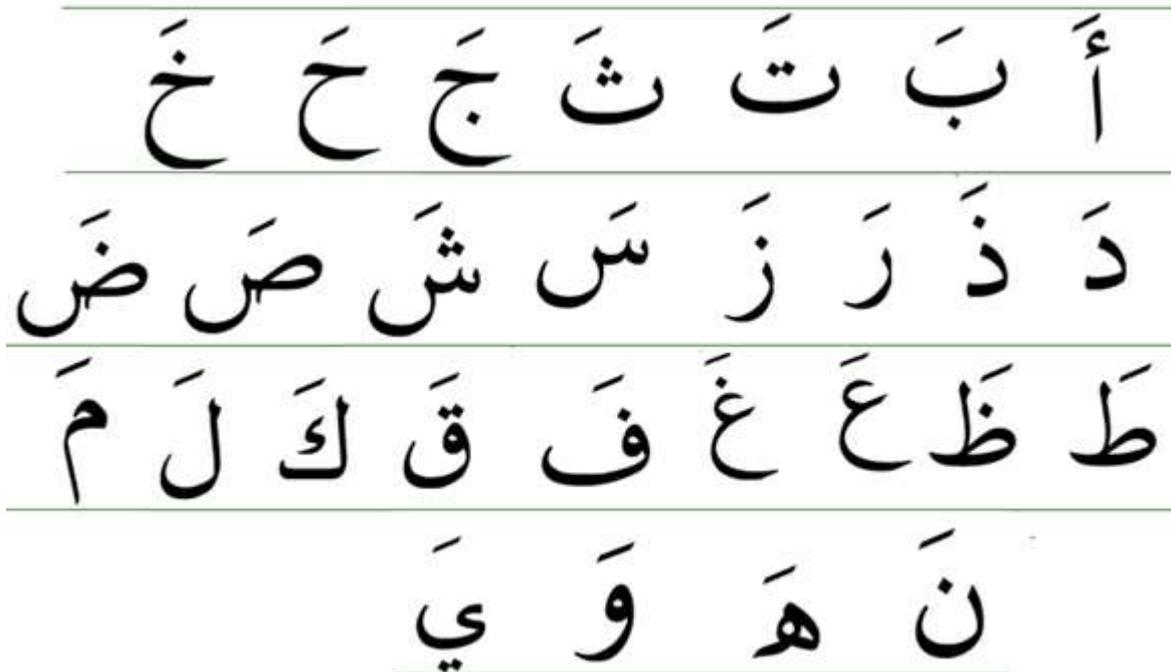
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Short Vowels:

The Arabic language has 3 short vowels. These include:

1. Fat'hah
 - It is a small line that appears above a letter.
 - On light letter, it has the 'a' sound as in the word 'car'.
 - On heavy letter, it has the 'o' sound as in the word 'hot'.
2. Dhammah
 - It is a small version of the letter و which appears above a letter.
 - It has 'u' sound as in the word 'put'.
3. Kasrah
 - It is a small line that appears below a letter.
 - It has 'i' sound as in the word 'in'.

Letters with Fat'hah:



Letters with Dhammah:

أُ بُ ثُ تُ جُ حُ خُ
دُ ذُ رُ زُ سُ شُ صُ ضُ
طُ ظُ عُ غُ فُ قُ كُ لُ
نُ هُ وُ يُ

Letters with Kasrah:

إِ بِ تِ ثِ جِ حِ خِ
دِ ذِ رِ زِ سِ شِ صِ ضِ
طِ ظِ عِ غِ فِ قِ كِ لِ
نِ هِ وِ يِ

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Practice with Fat'hah, Dhammah & Kasrah:

تَرَ	لَكَ	حَسَدًا	خَلَقَ	وَقَبَّ	كَسَبَ	أَمْرًا	رَفَعَ
فَعَلَ	جَمَعَ	وَلَدَ	عَبَسَ	مَلِكٍ	وَلِيٍّ	هُوَ	فَهُوَ
خَشِيَ	يَكُنْ	أُذُنَ	قُتِلَ	خُلِقَ	صُحِفَ	لَهُ	إِرْمَ

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The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said: "The Lord, Blessed and Most High is He, has said: 'Whoever is too busy with the Qur'an for remembering Me and asking Me, then I shall give him more than what I give to those who ask.' And the virtue of Allah's Speech over the speech of others is like the virtue of Allah over His creation". (Jami` at-Tirmidhi)

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Long Vowels:

- A long vowel is an extension of a short vowel. Arabic language has 3 long vowel letters.

There are: **ا و ا**

بَ (short) بَا (long)

بُ (short) بُو (long)

بِ (short) بِي (long)

- Fat'hah is followed by a naked 'Alif'; eg. **بَا**
- Dhammah is followed by a naked 'Waw'; eg. **بُو**
- Kasrah is followed by a naked 'Yaa'; eg. **بِي**
- Long vowels are lengthened for 2 counts.

Long vowels with Fat'hah:

ءَا	بَا	تَا	ثَا	جَا	حَا	خَا	دَا
ذَا	رَا	زَا	سَا	شَا	صَا	ضَا	طَا
ظَا	عَا	غَا	فَا	قَا	كَا	لَا	مَا
	نَا	وَا	يَا	هَا			

Practice:

زَادَ	خَافَ	تَابَ	جَاهَدَ
حَاسَبَ	جُنَّحَ	شَارَبَ	فَرَاغَ
خَادَعَ	قَاتَلَ	صَابَرَ	تَعَالَ

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Long vowel with Dhammah:

أُو	بُو	تُو	ثُو	جُو	حُو	خُو	دُو
ذُو	رُو	زُو	سُو	شُو	صُو	ضُو	طُو
ظُو	عُو	غُو	فُو	قُو	كُو	لُو	مُو
	نُو	وُو	هُو	ئُو	يُو		

Practice:

نُوحُ	تُوبُو	طُورُ	نُورُ
قَالُو	يُوحِي	يَقُومُ	تَكُونُ
هَارُونَ	قَارُونَ	دَاخِرُونَ	سَبَقُونَا
	بَاسِطُونَ	رَاجِعُونَ	

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Long vowels with Kasrah:

اِی	بِی	تِی	ثِی	جِی	حِی	خِی	دِی
ذِی	رِی	زِی	سِی	شِی	صِی	ضِی	طِی
ظِی	عِی	غِی	فِی	قِی	کِی	لِی	مِی
	نِی	وِی	هِی	ئِی	یِی		

Practice:

دِیْنِی	فِیْهِ	اِرْنِی	کِتَابِی
اُحِیْبُ	یُوَارِی	مَفَاتِیْحُ	رَازِقِیْنَ
عِبَادِی	عَذَابِی	تَمَائِلُ	مَقَادِیْرُ
	اَخِیْهِ	بَنِیْهِ	

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The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "The example of a believer who recites the Qur'an and acts on it, like a citron which tastes nice and smells nice. And the example of a believer who does not recite the Qur'an but acts on it, is like a date which tastes good but has no smell. And the example of a hypocrite who recites the Qur'an is like a Raihana (sweet basil) which smells good but tastes bitter. And the example of a hypocrite who does not recite the Qur'an is like a colocynth which tastes bitter and has a bad smell." (Sahih al-Bukhari)

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Sukoon:

The Sukoon has the appearance of a small squashed Daal (َ) and sits above a letter.
The letter with Sukoon is given a 'Hit and Give' sound.

Example:

With a Vowel

إِنَ (Ina)

With a Sukoon

إِنَّ (In)

Practice:

فَإِنَّ	لَمْ	قُلْ	إِنَّ
خَيْرٌ	عَنْ	مِنْ	هَلْ
أَعْهَدَ	أَرْسَلَ	نَشَطًا	لَسْتَ
عَنْهُمْ	يَعْمَلُ	أَتْرَابًا	عَلَيْكُمْ
تَقَهَّرَ	قُرْءَانًا	مِنْهُمْ	أَرْجِهْ
يَعْلَمُ	فَتَنْتُمْ	نَوْمَكُمْ	تُبْتُمْ
مَقْطُوعَةٍ	تَجْعَلْنَا	سَمْعُهُمْ	فَأَسْقِطْ
أَبْكَارًا	أَعَجَلْتُمْ	مَسْكِينًا	قَوَّسِينَ

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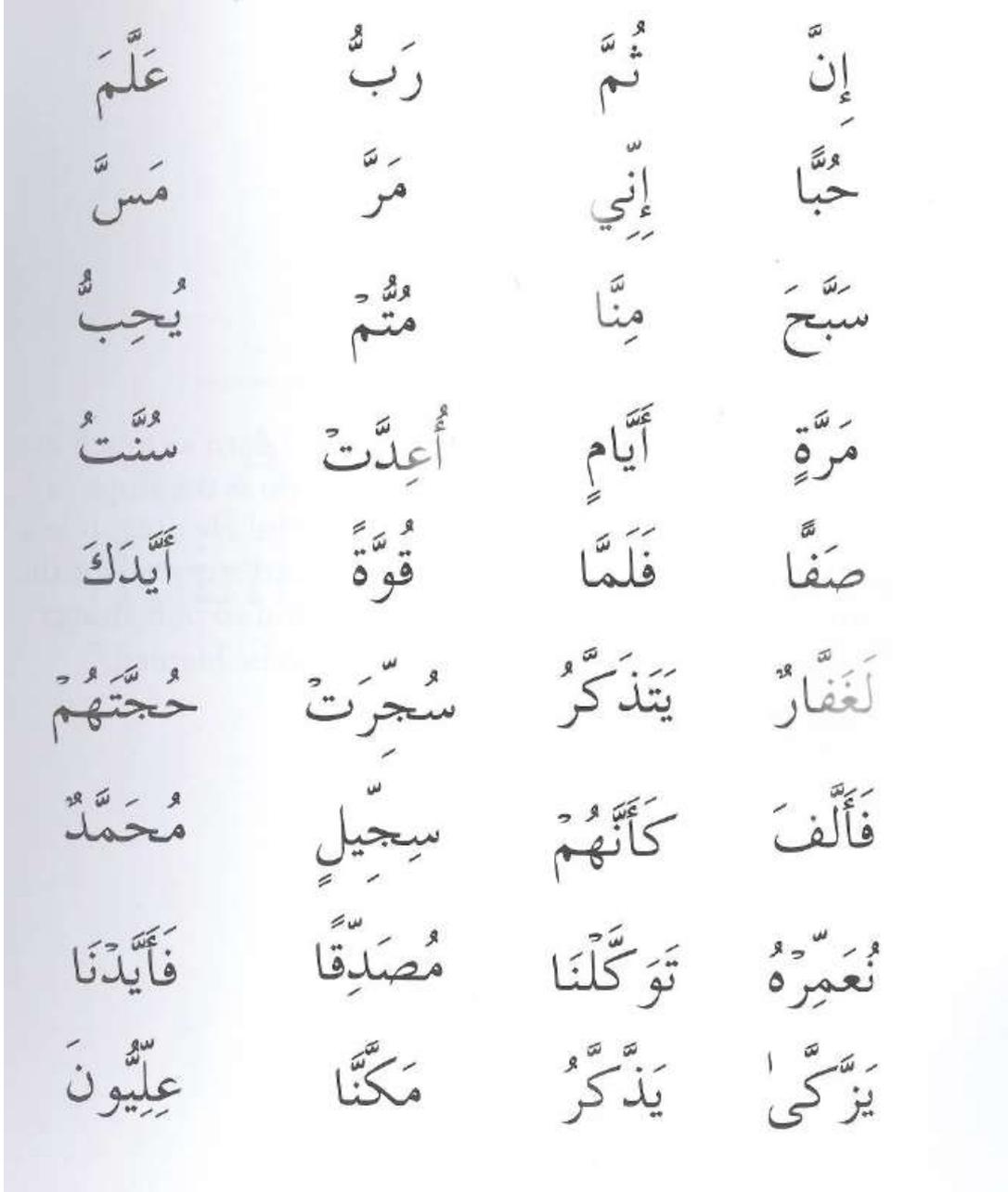
The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "The best talk is Allah's Book (Qur'an), and the best guidance is the guidance of Muhammad." (Sahih al-Bukhari)

Learning Qur'an

Shaddah:

- The Shaddah is a small 'w' that appears above a letter.
- It is accompanied by either a short vowel, tanwin or long vowel.
- The letter with Shaddah is given a 'Hit, Hold and Release' sound.
- Firstly, using the previous letter, hit the letter that has Shaddah on it.
- Secondly, hold the sound of the letter that has Shaddah on it.
- Thirdly, release the letter by pronouncing whatever accompanies the Shaddah.
- Example: رَبَّ

Practice:



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The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "One who is well versed in the Qur'an will be in the company of those angels who are scribes, noble and righteous; and one who falters in reading the Qur'an, and has to exert hard for learning, gets double the reward". (Muslim)

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Tanwin

- Tanwin is the same short vowels accompanying each other.
- It is pronounced by adding an 'n' to the end of the vowel.
- It always comes at the end of a word.
- Two Fathah's will always be accompanied by an 'Alif'. Exceptions are 'Ta mabuta' and 'Hamza'.

Example:

بَ (ba) بًا (ban)

بُ (bu) بُن (bun)

بِ (bi) بِن (bin)

حَ	جَ	ثَ	تَ	ةَ	تَا	بَا	ءَ
شَا	سَا	زَا	رَا	ذَا	دِي	دَا	خَا
قَا	فَا	غَا	عَا	ظَا	طَا	ضَا	صَا
	وَا	يَا	هَا	نَا	مَا	لَا	كَا

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ح	ث	هـ	هـ	ت	ب	و	ء
ح	س	ز	ر	ذ	د	خ	ح
ص	ف	غ	ع	ظ	ط	ض	ص
ك	هـ	هـ	هـ	ن	م	ل	ك
Arabic sign for 2 dhammah ؤ or وؤ							و

ح	ث	هـ	هـ	ت	ب	ئ	ء
ح	س	ز	ر	ذ	د	خ	ح
ص	ف	غ	ع	ظ	ط	ض	ص
ك	هـ	هـ	هـ	ن	م	ل	ك
							و

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The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "On the Day of Judgment, it will be said to the Man devoted to the Qur'an, 'Go on reciting the Qur'an and continue ascending the stories of Paradise and recite in the slow manner as you had been reading in worldly life; your final place will be where you reach at the time of the last ayat of your recitation.'" (Ahmad, Tirmidhi, Abu Dawud)

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Connections:

Arabic letters have different shapes depending on their appearance in the beginning, middle or end of a word.

End	Middle	Beginning	Isolated
أ	أ	أ	أ
ب	ب	ب	ب
ت	ت	ت	ت
ث	ث	ث	ث
ج	ج	ج	ج
ح	ح	ح	ح
خ	خ	خ	خ
د	د	د	د
ذ	ذ	ذ	ذ
ر	ر	ر	ر
ز	ز	ز	ز
س	س	س	س
ش	ش	ش	ش
ص	ص	ص	ص
ض	ض	ض	ض

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ط	ط	ط	ط
ظ	ظ	ظ	ظ
ع	ع	ع	ع
غ	غ	غ	غ
ف	ف	ف	ف
ق	ق	ق	ق
ك	ك	ك	ك
ل	ل	ل	ل
م	م	م	م
ن	ن	ن	ن
ه	ه	ه	ه
و	و	و	و
ي	ي	ي	ي
Additional Letters			
ة or ة	The Taa Marbootah <u>only</u> appears at the end of a word.		ة
أ	أ	أ	أ

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The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "Whoever reads one letter of the Book of Allah is credited with one blessing and one blessing is equal to tenfold the like thereof in its reward. I do not say that الم (*Alif Lam Meem*) is one letter, but '(ا)' (Alif) is one letter, '(ل)' (Lam) is one letter, and '(م)' (Meem) is one letter." (Tirmidhi)

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Joined Letters:

In Arabic , letters can take various forms when they are joined together.

The top letter is always read first and the first dot or set of dots belongs to that letter.

Examples:



Practice:

وَيَجْعَلُ	تُخْرِجُ	تَحْمِلُ	تَحْكُمُ
تُخْفِي	مَحْذُورًا	تَحْرِصُ	تَخْرُجُونَ
تَخْلُقُ	تَجْعَلُ	تَحْذَرُ	تَخْصِفَانِ
تَخْشَى	تَحْزَنُ	تَخَافُ	مُخْلِصِينَ
تَجْعَلُ	تُجْزِي	نَجْوَانَكُمْ	وَتُخْفِي
تَحْكُمُ	تَخْشَى	أَصْحَابُ	مَخْمَصَةٌ
تُحْيِيكُمْ	وَضُحَاهَا	جَمَعًا	مَحْظُورًا

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The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "Whoever reads the Qur'an and acts upon what is contained in it, his parents will be made to wear a crown on the Day of Judgment, the brightness of which will excel that of the sun, if the same were within your worldly houses. So, what do you think about the person who himself acts upon it?" (Ahmad, Abu Dawud)

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Hamzatul Wasl

The Hamzatul Wasl is a symbol like the head of the letter (ص) and it appears on top of Alif (أ). Its role is to connect the letter before it and the letter after it.

When Hamzatul Wasl is between two words, it is NOT pronounced. Example:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

When Hamzatul Wasl at the beginning of word, it is pronounced. Example:

الْحَمْدُ
الَّذِينَ
الرَّحْمَنِ

Practice:

فَأَنْصَبْ	لَيْلَةَ الْقَدْرِ	وَالزَّيْتُونَ
بِاسْمِ	وَالتَّقْوَى	الْغُفُورِ الْوَدُودِ
هُوَ اللَّهُ	اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ	إِنَّ الْمُسْلِمِينَ
بِاللَّيْلِ	وَكَانَ اللَّهُ	عَلَّمَ الْقُرْآنَ
عِنْدَ اللَّهِ	وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ	إِنَّ الْأَوَّلِينَ
وَالصُّحُفِ	هُوَ الْأَوَّلُ	هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ
بِالْقَلَمِ	هُوَ الَّذِي	إِنَّ الشِّرْكَ
وَالنَّجْمِ	مِنَ الَّذِينَ	فَتَمَّتْ مَوْتَ
وَالتَّيْنِ	جَنَاحِ الدُّلِّ	عَنِ النَّبِيِّ الْعَظِيمِ
مِنَ الرُّسُلِ	أَنَّهُ الْفِرَاقُ	وَاسْتَغْفِرُوا اللَّهَ

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The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "Whoever reads Qur'an and learns it by heart, and regards what it makes lawful as lawful and its unlawful as forbidden, will be admitted into Paradise by Almighty Allah Who will also accept his intercession in respect of 10 such persons of his family who shall have been doomed to Hell." (Ahmad, Tirmidhi)

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Sun and Moon Letters:

When there is ال at the beginning of a word, ل is pronounced when there is a Sukoon on top of it.

Example:

الْقَوْمُ

When there is ال at the beginning of a word, ل is NOT pronounced when there is nothing on top of it.

Example:

التِّينِ

Practice:

الْقَمَرُ	الشَّمْسُ	الطُّورُ	الضِّعْفُ
الأَرْضِ	المِيزَانَ	الصِّيَامِ	الْفَتْحِ
الرُّوحِ	الْبَلَدِ	الصُّبْحِ	النُّجُومِ
الثِّقَالَ	التِّينِ	القَارِعَةَ	السَّمَاءِ
النَّاسِ	الدُّبَابِ	الْتُّرَابِ	الْمِسْكِينِ
الذَّهَبِ	النَّارِ	الطَّارِقِ	الخُرُوجِ
الْقَوْمِ	الظَّالِمِ	الْهُدَى	السُّجُودِ
الَّذِينَ	الْمِيرَاثِ	الشِّتَاءِ	السَّبِيلِ

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The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "Verily, Allah elevates some people with this Qur'an and abases others."

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Stopping rules:

Rules for stopping apply whenever the reciter stops on a word in the middle or at the end of an ayah. Even if the recitation is stopped due to running out of breath, these rules are still applied.

Stopping rules for specific situation are :

Short vowels:

When stopping on a word ending with short vowel, the short vowel is replaced with a sukoon.

Example

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

Sometimes when short vowel is removed, it will produce a long vowel.

Example:

هُوَ اللَّهُ الَّذِي لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ

لَا يَلْفُ فُرَيْشٍ

Tanwin:

When stopping on a word ending with double dhammah or double kasrah, it is replaced with a sukoon.

Example:

سَيَصْلَىٰ نَارًا ذَاتَ لَهَبٍ

أَيَحْسَبُ أَنْ لَنْ يَقْدِرَ عَلَيْهِ أَحَدٌ

When stopping on a word ending with double fathah, one fathah is dropped and the word is pronounced with long vowel.

يَقُولُ أَهْلَكْتُ مَا لَا بَدَأَ

Learning Qur'an

Long vowels:

When stopping on a word ending with a long vowel, the long vowel is still pronounced.

Example:

وَالشَّمْسِ وَضُحَاهَا

وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا يَغْشَىٰ

Taa marbootah:

When stopping on a word ending with a taa marbootah, taa marbootah is pronounced as a ة on which a sukoon is placed.

وَبَلِّغْ لِكُلِّ هُمَزَةٍ لُّمَزَةٍ

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