

فَإِنَّمَا يَسَّرْنَاهُ بِلِسَانِكَ لِتُبَشِّرَ بِهِ الْمُتَّقِينَ وَتُنذِرَ

بِهِ قَوْمًا لُدًّا

So We have made the Qur'an easy in thy tongue that thou mayest give thereby glad tidings
to the righteous, and warn thereby a contentious people (19:98)

Basic Tajweed

Rules for Proper Qur'an Recitation

1

Introduction

What is Tajweed?

The word *Tajweed* means to make better or to improve.

It is the knowledge and application of a set of rules to recite the Holy Qur'an as close as possible as it was recited by the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ

Allah says in the Holy Qur'an

وَرَتِّلِ الْقُرْآنَ تَرْتِيلًا ٥

- and recite the Qur'an a good recital. (73-5)

2

Terminology

حرف	Harf (pl. Huruf)	Letter (of the Alphabet)
حرکه	Haraka (pl. Harakat)	Short Vowel (<i>Fatha, Kasra, Damma</i>)
مخرج	Makhraj (pl. Makharij)	Place of origin of sound – i.e. correct pronunciation
وقف	Waqf (pl. wuquf)	Pause / Stop
سکون / جزم	Jazm / Sukoon	A small circle over letters denoting the letter has no <i>Harakah</i> . The letter becomes <i>Saakin</i> .

Terminology

تنوین	Tanween	Double <i>Harakaas</i> i.e. two <i>fathas</i> , two <i>kasras</i> or two <i>dammās</i> that together give the sound of <i>Noon</i> (ن).
تشدید	Tashdid / Shadda	Doubling the sound of a letter so that it is stressed but adding the sign over it. Such a letter is said to be <i>mushaddad</i>
غنة	Ghunnah	Nasalized pronunciation of the letter <i>Noon</i> or <i>Meem</i> . There is no other nasal letter in Arabic.
مدّ	Madda	Elongation

Origin of Letters مَخَارِجُ

Originates from emptiness of mouth	ا و ی
Back of throat	ھ
Center of throat	ع ح
Upper portion of throat	غ خ
The back of tongue rises and touches the soft palate	ق ک

5

Origin of Letters مَخَارِجُ

The center of the tongue touches the upper palate	ج ش
The upturned sides of the tongue touch the gum of the upper back teeth	ض
Originate when tip of the tongue touches the upper hard palate	ر ل ن
Originate when tip of the tongue touches the gums of the upper two front teeth	ت د ط
Originate when tip of the tongue touches the edge of the upper two front teeth	ث ذ

6

Origin of Letters مَخَارِجُ

Originate when the tip of the tongue rises towards the upper palate, touching the gums behind the upper two front teeth	ز س ص
Originate from the lips	ب م
Originates when the inner portion of the bottom lip meets the edge on the two upper front teeth	ف

7

Madd or Elongation

Letters with *Harakah* ($\overline{\quad}$) are prolonged if they are followed by their corresponding *Harooful Madd* (ا ي و). Such type of elongation is called *Maddul Asli* or *original elongation*.

Corresponding <i>Harooful Madd</i>	Harka
ا	$\overline{\quad}$ FATHA
ي	$\overline{\quad}$ KASRA
و	$\overline{\quad}$ DHAMMA

Exception: If *Fatha* is followed by its corresponding *Harful Madd* i.e *Alif* (ا) with a *sukoon*, then it is not prolonged but rather recited with a jerk

8

Madd or Elongation

بُ	بَ	بِ	بِ	بَا	بِ
تُو	تَ	تِ	تِ	تَا	تِ
ثُو	ثَ	ثِ	ثِ	ثَا	ثِ
جُو	جَ	جِ	جِ	جَا	جِ
حُو	حَ	حِ	حِ	حَا	حِ
خُو	خَ	خِ	خِ	خَا	خِ
دُو	دَ	دِ	دِ	دَا	دِ

9

Madd or Elongation

ذُو	ذُ	ذِي	ذِ	ذَا	ذِ
رُو	رُ	رِي	رِ	رَا	رِ
زُو	زُ	زِي	زِ	زَا	زِ
سُو	سُ	سِي	سِ	سَا	سِ
شُو	شُ	شِي	شِ	شَا	شِ
صُو	صُ	صِي	صِ	صَا	صِ
ضُو	ضُ	ضِي	ضِ	ضَا	ضِ

10

Madd or Elongation

طَو	طَا	طِي	طِ	طَا	طَا
تَطُو	تَطَا	تَطِي	تَطِ	تَطَا	تَطَا
عَو	عَا	عِي	عِ	عَا	عَا
تَعُو	تَعَا	تَعِي	تَعِ	تَعَا	تَعَا
فَو	فَا	فِي	فِ	فَا	فَا
تَفُو	تَفَا	تَفِي	تَفِ	تَفَا	تَفَا
كَو	كَا	كِي	كِ	كَا	كَا
تَكُو	تَكَا	تَكِي	تَكِ	تَكَا	تَكَا


11

Madd or Elongation

لَو	لَا	لِي	لِ	لَا	لَا
مَو	مَا	مِي	مِ	مَا	مَا
نَو	نَا	نِي	نِ	نَا	نَا
وَو	وَا	وِي	وِ	وَا	وَا
ءَو	ءَا	ءِي	ءِ	ءَا	ءَا

12


Madd or Elongation

If *Maddul Asli* is followed by a *Hamza* (ء) in the **same word**, the elongation of *Harooful Madd* is increased to upto 4 to 6 *Harakah*. Such *Madd* is called *Maddul Muttasil or Joined Madd*. It is represented by  sign

إِذَا جَاءَ نَصْرُ	ا
سَوَاءٍ عَلَيْهِمْ	
سُوْءًا أَوْ يُظْلَمُ	و
سُوْءِ الدَّارِ	
هَنِيئًا مَرِيئًا	ى
وَجَائِيَّ يَوْمَئِذٍ	

13


Madd or Elongation

If *Maddul Asli* is in the end of a word and the next word starts with a *Hamza* (ء) or *Alif* (ا), then the elongation of *Harooful Madd* is increased to upto 3 to 5 *Harakah*. Such *Madd* is called *Maddul Munfasil or Detached Madd*. It is represented by  sign

إِنَّا أَعْطَيْنَاكَ	ا
إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ	
قُوًّا أَنْفُسِكُمْ	و
وَأَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ	
وَفِي أَنْفُسِكُمْ	ى
وَلَوْ عَلَا أَنْفُسِكُمْ	

14

Madd or Elongation

In case of *Harooḥ Muqataat* which appears at the beginning of a Sura, a Madd similar to *Maddul Muttasil* is applied. The length is 4 to 6 *Harakah*. Such Madd is called *Maddul Laazim* or *Compulsory Madd*. It is represented by  sign

كُتِبَ عَصًا	قَفَّ
نَ وَالْقَلَمِ وَمَا	
الْمَ	
قُتِبَ وَالْقُرْآنِ الْمَجِيدِ	
حَمَّ تَنْزِيلُ	
حَمَّ عَسَقًا	

15

Madd or Elongation

If after *Madd* letters (ا و ی) there appears a *Saakin* caused by *waqf* or stop then such *Madd* is called *Maddul Aaridh*. The length of recitation of *Maddul Aaridh* will be 2 to 5 *Harakah*. There is no symbol representing such *Madd*.

مِنْ دُونِهِ أَوْلِيَاءُ	ا
هَذَا الَّذِي كُنْتُمْ بِهِ تَدَّعُونَ	و
مِنْ مَّشْهَدٍ يَوْمٍ عَظِيمٍ	ي

16

Qalqala

When letters of *Qalqala* have *Sukoon* on them, then they will be read with an echoing or jerking sound

The letters of *Qalqala* are

ق	ط	ب	ج	د
---	---	---	---	---

Care should be taken when reciting, not to jerk the letter to an extent that it will sound like *Fatha*

زَقَّ	ذُقَّ	مَقَّ	زَطَّ	بَطَّ	إِطَّ
أَبَّ	إَبَّ	أَبَّ	سَبَّ	سَبَّ	سَبَّ
حَجَّ	حَجَّ	هَجَّ	دَدَّ	عَدَّ	جَدَّ
أَقَّ	أَطَّ	كَبَّ	إَجَّ	مَدَّ	كَبَّ

17

Qalqala

When a stop is made at the end of a verse and the ending letter is one of the *Qalqala* letters, the same rule applies. The last letter will become *Saakin* irrespective of the vowel sign

ق	وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا وَرَبُّ الْمَشَارِقِ
ط	إِنَّا أَرْسَلْنَا إِلَى قَوْمِ لُوطٍ
ب	خِطَفَ الْخَيْطَةِ فَاتَّبَعَهُ شِهَابٌ ثَاقِبٌ
ج	وَلَا فَسُوقٌ وَلَا جِدَالٌ فِي الْحَجِّ

18

Noon (ن) and Meem (م) Mushaddah

When the letter ن and م have a *Shaddah* (نّ مّ) then it will be recited with *Ghunnah* (nasalization). The length of nasalization should not be more than two *Harakah*

إِنَّا زَيْنَا السَّمَاءِ الدُّنْيَا	نّ
إِنَّ جَهَنَّمَ كَانَتْ مِرْصَادًا	نّ
وَلَا تَكُنْ فِي ضَيْقٍ مِّمَّا يَمْكُرُونَ	مّ
وَلَقَدْ خَلَقْنَاكُمْ ثُمَّ صَوَّرْنَاكُمْ ثُمَّ قُلْنَا	مّ

19

Meem (م) Saakin

There are three rules for Meem Saakin (م)

1. Ikhfa Meem Saakin

When the letter *Baa* (ب) appears after *Meem Saakin* (م), there will be *Ikhfa*; which means it will be pronounced with a light nasal sound for a duration of 2 *Harakah*

أَفْتَرَىٰ عَلَى اللَّهِ كَذِبًا أُرِيدُهُ جَنَّةً ۗ

2. Idghaam Meem Saakin

When *Meem (م) Mushaddadah* appears after *Meem Saakin* (م), there will be *Idghaam*; which means the two *Meems* will merge and will be read with a light nasal sound for a duration of 2 *Harakah*

وَلَهُمْ مَا يَشْتَهُونَ

3. Ithaar Meem Saakin

If any of the 26 letters appear after *Meem Saakin* (م) other than *Meem (م) Mushaddadah* and the letter *Baa* (ب), an *Idhaar* will occur. It means that *Meem* will be read clearly

20

Noon (ن) Saakin and Tanween

2. Idghaam

Idghaam or assimilation occurs if after *Noon Saakin* or *Tanween* there appear any of the following letters

ن	و	ل	م	ر	ي
---	---	---	---	---	---

The above letters will have *Shadda* for assimilation to occur. The method of delivery is again divided into two forms.

- The letters ن م و ي will be read with *Ghunna* (nasalization) sound which is not to be prolonged for more than 2 *Harakas*.
- The letters ر ل will be read clearly and no *Ghunna* (nasalization) will occur

إِنْ يَقُولُونَ	ي
عَدْنِ يَدُ خُلُونَهَا	
عَنْ مَلَّةٍ	م
أَبِيَّةٍ مِّن رَّبِّهِ	

23

Noon (ن) Saakin and Tanween

مِنْ وَالٍ	و
جَدَّتِ وَعَبُودٍ	
لَنَا أَنْ تَأْتِيَكُمُ	ن
قَرِيبٍ يُحِبُّ	
مَنْ لَوْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ	ل
هُدًى لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ	
هُدًى مِّن رَّبِّهِمْ	ر
غَفُورٌ رَّحِيمٌ	

24

Noon (ن) Saakin and Tanween

3. Ikhfa

If any of the letters **other than** the *Throat letters* (ح خ ع غ ه) or *Idgham letters* (ي ر م ل و ن) come after *Noon Saakin* or *Tanween* the word must be read with *Ghunna* or nasalization. The length of the *Ghunna* will be equal to the duration of two harkas

وَإِنْ تَغْفِرْ لَهُمْ فَاِنَّكَ	ت
لَهُمْ جَنَّتْ تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهَا	
تَحْمِلُ كُلُّ أُنْثَىٰ وَمَا تَغِيصُ الْأَرْحَامُ	ث
سُوءًا بِجَهَالَتِهِمْ تَابَ مِنْ بَعْدِهِ	
عَلَيْكُمْ إِذْ أَنْجَكُم مِّنَ آلِ	ج
يَاتٍ بِخَلْقٍ جَدِيدٍ	

25

Noon (ن) Saakin and Tanween

أَنْ دَعَوْتَكُمْ فَاسْتَجَبْتُمْ لِي	د
وَمِنَ النَّخْلِ مَنْ طَلَعَهَا قُتُونٌ دَانِيَةٌ	
وَيُضَدَّكُمْ عَنْ ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَعَنِ	ذ
كُلِّ نَفْسٍ دَائِقَةُ الْمَوْتِ	
فَمَنْ زُحِرَ عَنِ النَّارِ وَأُدْخِلَ الْجَنَّةَ	ز
نَفْسًا زَكِيَّةً بِغَيْرِ نَفْسٍ	
وَإِذَا أَنْعَمْنَا عَلَى الْإِنْسَانِ	س
وَيَقُولُونَ خَسَةً سَادَسُهُمْ كَلْبُهُمْ	

26

Noon (ن) Saakin and Tanween

قَالَ سَتَجِدُنِي إِِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ صَابِرًا	ش
عَذَابًا شَدِيدًا ۗ كَانَ ذَلِكَ فِي الْكِتَابِ	ص
وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ فِئَةٌ يَنْصُرُونَهُ	
مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ ۗ رَجُلٌ صَدَقُوا مَا	ض
أَلَّهُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ ضَعْفٍ	
بَعْدَ قُوَّةٍ ۗ ضَعْفًا وَشَيْبَةً ۗ	ط
مِنْ طِينٍ	
بَلَدَةً طَيِّبَةً ۗ وَرَبُّ غَفُورٌ	

27

Noon (ن) Saakin and Tanween

أُولَئِكَ يَسِيرُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ فَيَنْظُرُوا كَيْفَ	ظ
وَنُدْخِلُهُمْ ظِلًّا ظَلِيلًا	ف
حِذْرِكُمْ ۗ فَانْفِرُوا ثُبَاتٍ أَوِ انْفِرُوا جَمِيعًا	
مَا أَصَابَكَ مِنْ حَسَنَةٍ فَمِنَ اللَّهِ	ق
وَمَنْ قَتَلَ مُؤْمِنًا خَطَأً فَتَحْرِيرُ رَقَبَةٍ	
وَإِنْ كَانَ لِلْكَافِرِينَ نَصِيبٌ ۗ قَالُوا	ك
فَإِنْ كَانَ لَكُمْ قِتْلٌ مِّنَ اللَّهِ	
سَيِّئَاتِكُمْ وَنُدْخِلِكُمْ مُدْخَلَ كَرِيمًا	

28

Rules of Stopping

If any of these signs (◌◌◌) or (◌◌◌) appears on the end letter of the word and stop is required, then the last letter is read with *Saakin*

إِذَا مُنْظَرِينَ ○	نَارًا حَامِيَةً ○
حَدِيثُ الْعَاشِيَةِ ○	إِلَى حَيْنٍ ○
النَّفْسُ الْمُطْبِقَةُ ○	إِنَّكَ لَمَجْنُونٌ ○

If the last letter ends with *Alif* and letter before it has *Fatha Tanween* (◌◌◌) or *Fatha* (◌◌) or the last letter has *Madd*, then it will be pronounced as *Fatha* (◌◌)

حُبًّا جَمًّا ○	وَالنُّشْطِ نَشْطًا ○
وَالشَّمْسِ وَضُحَيْهَا ○	رَبِّكَ فَتَحْتَهَا ○

29

Rules of Stopping

Compulsory Stop

وَأَذْكُرْ فِي الْكِتَابِ مَرْيَمَ إِذِ اتَّيَدَّتْ	◌
---	---

Necessary Stop

عَلَيْهَا صَعِيدًا جُرُزًا ○	○
------------------------------	---

Stop for a moment without breaking the breath

وَأَعْفُ عَنَّا وَأَغْفِرْ لَنَا وَأَرْحَمْنَا أَنْتَ	وقفة
كَلَّا بَلْ عَنَتَ رَانَ	سكتة

Necessary to continue do not stop

فَاعْبُدْنِي وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ لِذِكْرِي ○	لا
--	----

30

Rules of Stopping

Recommended pause

وَمَلَائِكَتِهِمْ وَكُتُبِهِمْ وَأُرْسُلِهِمْ تَدَايُفًا فَفَرَّقَ	قف
--	----

Option to pause or continue

رَبِّكَ لَا مَبْدَلَ لِكَلِمَاتِهِ وَلَكِنْ	ج
---	---

Any two of the three sections of verse can be read in continuity

وَقَالَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا لَوْلَا نُزِّلَ عَلَيْهِ الْقُرْآنُ جُمْلَةً وَاحِدَةً كَذَلِكَ لِنُثِّتَ بِهِ فُؤَادَكَ وَرَتَّلْنَاهُ تَرْتِيلًا ۝	شخ or ∴
---	---------------