Treatise on Tajweed
رسالة مختصرة في علم التجويد

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All praise is due to Allah and may his peace and blessings be upon the Messenger. And I proceed.

Indeed, reading the Qur’an as is supposed to be read is from the important duties of the Muslims. Allah has said in his noble book:

و رتل القرآن ترتيلة

“And read the Qur’an with Tarteel”

And Tajweed in the language it means to decorate (At Tazyeen) and the Prophet (Salallahu Alaihi Wa Sallam) has told us:

من لم يتغن بالقران فليس منا

“Whoever does not recite the Qur’an melodiously is not from us.”

And he said:

زینوا أصواتكم بالقرآن

“Decorate your voice when you recite.”

This is the basis of us learning Tajweed. To make the Qur’an sound beautiful and in the language of the scholars of this science it is:

Reading the Qur’an by reciting the letters from its proper origin and giving its rights (from how the letter supposed to be recited) and what branches from it (like the rules of Ikhfaa, Idghaam etc.) I therefore present this a treatise on basic Tajweed (Tuhfah Al Ghilmaan) which was written by Yahya Ibn Abdir Rahmaan Baa Fadl from Hadramout, Yemen. I have made some alterations in order to make it easily navigable to our Anglophone brothers and sisters.

However, it mainly deals with what branches from it (Ikhfaa, Idghaam etc) and not the actual origin of the letters and its descriptions in weakness or in strength. However, the ‘Ulama of Tajweed have mentioned that if one wants to find out the origin of a letter he should place an Alif with a Kesra before it and afterward pronounce the letter with a Sukoon. However, learning the Makharij (the origin of the letters) and the Sifaat (descriptions of them) requires a teacher who will help you pronounce the letter as it should be pronounced.

May Allah help us to obey him and fear him as he should be feared.

Musa Millington
The rulings pertaining to the Noon Saakinah (۷) and Tanween (۷۷)

1. Clarity (الإظهار):

If you find a Noon Saakinah or Tanween before the throat letters which are Hamzah (إ,أ,ئ,ء,ؤ), Haa (ه), 'Ayn (ع), Haa (soft Haa): (ح), Ghain (غ), Khaa (خ) then the Noon Saakinah and the Tanween must be read with clarity i.e without any Ghunna (Nasal sound).\(^1\)

Examples of this in the Qur’an with Noon Saakinah are:

أًنْعَفَتٍ, يَنْحُثُونَ, يَنْهُؤُنَ

And examples with Tanween are:

ماءٌ غَيْرٌ, عَلِيّ٢مِ خَبْيَر٢

2. Assimilation (الإدغام) and this is elaborated with the word Yarmaloon (يَرْمَلُونَ) and it is divided into two categories.

Complete assimilation (الإدغام الكامل). This is the assimilation of the letters without any Ghunnah. And it only occurs with the Laam (ل) and the Raa (ر).

Examples of this with the Noon Saakinah are:

مِنْ لَدْنَهُ, مِنْ رَبِّهِمْ

And examples with Tanween are:

مَالاً لُبْدَا, عَيْشَة٢ رَاضِيّة٢

Incomplete assimilation (إدغام ناقص). This is the assimilation of the letters with the Ghunnah. This occurs with the rest of the letters: (ي, م, و, ن)

Examples with the Noon Saakinah are:

مِنْ يَقُولُ, مِنْ نَغْمَة٢, مِنْ مَال٢

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\(^1\) This is also called Idhaar Al Halqi (اظهار الحلقي)
Examples with the Tanween are:

Examples of this with the Noon Saakinah are:

Examples of this with the Tanween are:

3. **Al Iqlaab (الإقلاب):** This occurs when the Noon Saakinah or Tanween proceeds the letter Ba (ب) and instead of it sounding like a Noon it would sound like a distorted (hidden) Meem (م)

Examples of this with the Noon Saakinah are:

Examples of this with the Tanween are:

4. **Al Ikhfaa (الإخفاء):** This occurs with the rest of the letters and is read like a distorted (hidden) noon.

An example of this with the noon Saakinah is:

And an example of this with the Tanween is:

**The rules of the Meem Saakinah (م)**

1. **Assimilation (الإدغام):** If a Meem Saakinah is present and there is another Meem after it is must be assimilated and read with Ghunnah (the nasal sound)

An example of this is:

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2. Other than the throat letters, the letters of Idghhaam and Baa.
3. There are two types of Ikhfaa. Al Ikhhfaa Al Haqeeqi Al Mufakham (الإخفاء الحقيقي المفخم) which occurs with the Huruuf Ul Isti’laa. And the Ikhhfaa Al Haqeeqi Al Muraqqaq (الإخفاء الحقيقي المرقق) which occurs with the rest of the letters.
2. **Al Ikhfaa (الإخفاء):** If there is a Meem Saakinah and then a Baa afterward it the Meem is read with a nasal sound in a distorted fashion.  

An example of this is:

\[
	ext{تُرْمُّمِهِمُ بِحجَارَةٍ}
\]

3. **Clarity (الإظهار):** The Meem Saakinah is read with clarity before the rest of the letters i.e other than the Meem and the Baa.

An example of this is:

\[
	ext{أَلَمْ تَرَ}
\]

**The rules of the Meem and Noon with the Shaddah (مّ، نّ):**

When the reader sees a Meem or a Noon with a Shaddah the Meem or the Noon is read with Ghunnah (Nasal Sound) for two seconds.

Examples of this are:

\[
	ext{قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ النَّاسِ وَ أَمَّا مِنَ}
\]

**The rules of the Raa (ر):**

1. The heavy sounding Raa (التفخيم) is read in the following instances:

   i. If it is a Raa with a Fathah (رَ) or Raa with a Dammah (رُ)

Examples of this are:

\[
	ext{رُسُولُ اللَّهِ}
\]

   ii. When the following letter which are called (حروف الإستغلا) comes after the Raa Saakinah (رْ) which comes after a letter wish a Kesrah. And these letters are: (خص, ضغط, قظ)

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4 This is also called Ikhfaa Al Shafawi (الإخفاء الشفوي)
An example of this is:

إنَّ رَبِّكَ لَبَالْمُرَصِّدٍ

2. Otherwise, the Raa is read with a light sound (الترقيق). Examples of this are:

من شَرّ ما خَلَقَ – This is the instance where it is a nature Kesrah

إِذْهَبَ إِلَى فَرْعُونَ – This is the instance where there is no Harf Isti’laa

غَيْرُ قَدْرُ – This is the instance where there is a Yaa before the Raa.

للْذِّكْرِ – This is the instance where a letter with a Kesrah comes after the Sukoon.

3. There is one instance where the Raa is read with exaggeration (الإمالة) in Tarqeeq and this is in the verse:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ مَجْرِيَّهَا

**The rules of the Laam (ل)**

1. The issues relating to the Laam Saakinah (لُ)

i. If the Laam Saakinah comes before the following letters: (ابغ حجك و خف) عقيمه

5it is necessary to make the Laam clear.

Examples of this are:

وَ الْعَصْرِ, وَ الْفَجْرِ, وَ الْبَلَدُ

ii. If the Laam Saakinah comes before the other letters which are called Sun letters then there is assimilation. The Laam is therefore not pronounced clearly.

Examples of this are:

5 These are called the moon letters (الحروف القمرية)
2. The rules relating to Lafthul Jalaalah (الله)

i. If it is that a Kesra comes before a Lafthul Jalaalah then it must be pronounced with a light sound.

Examples of this are:

ف اسْت ع ذْ

ii. If it is that a Dammah or a Fatha comes before Lafthul Jalaalah it must be pronounced with a heavy sound.

Examples of this are:

ر سُوْلُ اللّ

The rules of lengthening (المدود)

1. The normal Madd (المد الطبيعي)

This occurs where the Waaw comes after the Dhamma, the Yaa after the Kesra, and the standing Alif after the Fatha. It is compiled in the statement: (نحوها). The reader recites this lengthener for approximately two seconds.

2. The Madd where the Hamza is separate from the word (المد المنفصل)

This occurs when the Hamza coming after a lengthener is separate from the word itself. Therefore the reader has the option to recite it between two to four seconds.

An example of this is:

بِمَا أَنْزَلَ

3. The Madd where the Hamza is part of the word (المد المتصل)

This occurs when the Hamza coming after a lengthener is part of the word itself. The reader therefore recites it between four and five seconds.
Examples of this are:

إِذَا جَاءَ مَاءً مَعِينٍ

4. The Madd where there is a Shaddah or a letter with a Sukoon after it (المد اللازمة)

This is where a Shaddah or Sukoon occurs after a lengthener. The reader must recite it for six seconds.

Examples of this are:

الْخَافَاةُ الصَّاَخَةُ

5. The Madd where Sukoon is put on the final letter when it comes after the letters of Madd. This is called Maddul ‘Aaridh Lis Sukoon (مد العارض للسكون)

This occurs when one of the letters of Madd is placed before a letter with a Sukoon. The reader has the option to recite it between 2-6 seconds.

Examples of this are:

وَ لَا الصَّالِيَنَّ، رَبِّ الْعَالَمِيَنَ

The rules of Qalqalah (القلقلة)

The Qalqalah is described as an echoing sound that is made when reciting a letter. It occurs when the following letters (قطب جد) are recited with the Sukoon.

Examples of this are:

الْبَلُدُ، الْبُرُوجُ، لَهَبُ

End of treatise. I ask Allah ta’ala to accept this from myself and I ask him to make it a good introductory book to beginning students of Tajweed. I also ask him to raise my dear teachers: Shaikh Khaalid Al Misri and Shaikh ‘Ubaidallah Al Afghani in many ranks.

و صلِى الله علی نبینا محمد و على اله و صحبه و سلم

Completed on 15th January 2012 which corresponds to 21st Safar 1433 Hijrah

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6 This only occurs when the reader stops at the last letter. Otherwise it is read as a normal Madd.