

## Easy way to Quranic reading

 anvip

## Dr V Abdur Rahim

# 'AT-TIBYĀN' Easy way to Quranic reading 

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## 'AT-TIBȲAN'

Easy Way to Quranic reading (English)

| First Edition | $:$ | Jan | 2000 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Reprint | : July | 2003 |  |
| Reprint | : Jan | 2006 |  |

ISBN : 8123201346

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Publishers : ISLAMIC FOUNDATION TRUST
138, Perambur High Road
Chennai - 600 012. India
Ph.: 2662440126620091
Fax: 091-44-2662 0682
E-mail: iftchennai12@gmail.com
Website : www.iftchennai.org
Printed at Chennai Micro Print, Chennai

## Publisher's Note

It was six years ago that ISLAMIC FOUNDATION TRUST published the first edition of al-Tibyan in Tamil. This book which is meant to teach the reader the Arabic alphapet with Qur'anic orientation is based on some of the latest advanced teaching principles and has considerably cut down the learning period.

The need for an English version of this book has long been felt. Such a version has now become a reality, al-hamdu lillah.

We hope this English version will prove as useful as the Tamil book has proved to be.

Audio, CD of this book will be released in due course.

May Allah Ta'ala help us to serve the language of His Glorious Book.

01-01-2000
CHENNAI - 12
M.A.JAMEEL AHMED

General Secretary

## PREFACE TO THIRD EDITION

All praise be to Allah, the Lord of the universe, and peace and blessings of Allah be upon the noblest of His Messenger Muhammad, his household and his companions.

This book was first published in January 2000. It has been well received not only in India, but also in some other countries, al-hamdu lillâh. I have great pleasure in presenting this revised edition. The most important change that I have made in this edition is to replace the hand-written Qur'anic text at the end of the book with a computerized version which will greatly help the users of the book to read the Qur'anic text easily.

May Allah subhânahu wâ ta' âlâ make this edition more useful than the previous one, and help the students learn the language of the Glorious Qur'an better.
al-Madinah al - Munawwarah
V. Abdur Rahim

Dhu l-Hijjah 05, 1426 AH
Janaury 05, 2006 CE

## PREFACE

All praise be to Allah, the Lord of the universe, and peace and blessings of Allah be upon His messenger Muhammad, his household and his companions.

This book is meant to teach Indian students how to read the Qur'anic Arabic through English. It is presumed that those who use this book are familiar with the speech-sounds which are common to most Indian languages.

This book is based on the following principles:
a. The speech-sounds of one language $v i s-a$-vis those of another fall under three categories:

1. Completely identical
2. Similiar but not identical
3. Totally different.

The Arabic sounds have been presented in this book in this order.
b. From the very outset the consonants are taught with the vowel-signs.
c. In each lesson only one letter, vowel-sign or rule of orthography is taught.
d. Words in the exercises are made up of only those letters, vowel-signs and orthographical rules which the students have already learnt. So the students can read the words by themselves.
The teacher explains the new element in each lesson. Then the students read the words by themselves without the help of the teacher. The teacher moves to the next lesson only after all the students have thoroughly understood this new element.

May Allah subhāanahu wa ta 'ālā make this book useful, and help the students learn the language of the Quran better.

## Madinah Munawwarah

Ramdhan 16, 1420 AH
V.Abdur Rahim

## INTRODUCTION

Arabic is written from right to left. The Arabic alphabet has 29 letters, which are consonants and long vowels. Unlike English, short vowels have no letters; they are represented by signs placed above or below the letters. If English were to be written in the Arabic way, we would write the words man, did and put like: $\mathrm{m}_{\mathrm{n}}^{\mathrm{n}}, \mathrm{d} \mathrm{d}, \hat{\mathrm{p}} \mathrm{t}$ !

All the letters in a word are joined to each other. Six of them are joined to the previous letter only.

Most of the letters have two forms. One of them is the independent form, also used with slight change at the end of the word when joined to the preceding letter. The other is the form used in the initial and medial positions. A few letters have four forms, and a few remain unchanged in whatever position they occur. In this book when a letter is introduced, its other form or forms are also given.

The following are the vowels signs, their names, their positions and their pronunciations:

* The sign 二 called the fathah, is pronounced as $u$ in sun. In our phonetic transcription it is represented by $a$. It is placed above the letter, e.g., ¿́ ma.
* The一sign called the kasrah, is pronounced as $i$ in pin. In our phonetic transcription it is represented by $i$. It is placed below the letter, e.g., p mi.

In the Indian subcontinent the kasrah in an open syllable is pronounced as $e$ in bed. This is wrong.

* The sign ㅛㅡ called the dammah, is pronounced as $u$ in put. In out phonetic transcription it is represented by $u$. It is placed above the letter e.g., $\hat{p}$ mu.

In the Indian subcontinent the dammah in an open syllable is pronounced as $o$ in November. This is wrong.

* The sign $\equiv \underline{\underline{G}} \bar{\equiv}$ double fathah, double dammah and double kasrah, at the end of a word are pronounced as $a n, u n$ and in respectively.
* The sign $\rightleftharpoons$ called the sukûn denotes the absence of a vowel,

* The sign $\underline{\omega}$ called the shaddah denotes doubling of a



## Lesson 1



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## NOTE:

The kasrah is always pronounced like $i$ in pin. In the Indian subcontinent it is pronounced as $e$ in bed in an open syllable. This is wrong.

The dammah is always pronounced like $u$ in put. In the Indian subcontinent it is pronounced like $o$ in November in an open syllable. This is wrong.

## Lesson 2



Note : This is pronounced like the Hindi त.


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Lesson 3


| 8 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| tu | ti | ta |

Note : These are the forms of $\underset{\sim}{\square}$ and when they are connected to other letters.


## Lesson 4



Note : This sign $\quad$ signifies the absesnce of a vowel.


## Lesson 5



Note : This sign $\omega$ signifies the doubling of the consonant.


## Lesson 6



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## Lesson 7



## Lesson 8



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## Lesson 9



## Lesson 10



Note: $\hat{a}$ as $a$ in father.



## Lesson 11




## Lesson 12



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Note that $1+J$ is written $ل$ when not joined to the previous letter, and $y$ when joined to the previous letter.


## Lesson 13



## Lesson 14



## Note : This letter is like the Hindi द.




## Lesson 15



Note : $\hat{i}$ as $i$ in machine.


Note : ــي



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## Lesson 16



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## Lesson 17



Note: $\hat{u}$ as $u$ in rule:


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## Lesson 18



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## Lesson 19





هُســــلموُوتَ

سَـامــلُوgْنَ


تَأْسِـروُونَ


## Lesson 20



## Lesson 21



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## Lesson 22



Note: This letter occurs only at the end of a word.



## Lesson 23



Note: This letter is like sh in she.


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## Lesson 24



Note : $a i$ sounds like $i e$ in die or $i$ in time. It does not sound like the diphthong in the Urdu - Hindi بيـل बैल (bull). In the Indian subcontinent it is pronounced like this Urdu - Hindi sound which is wrong.






## Lesson 25



Note: When this letter has fathah, kasrah or dammah it is pronounced as a consonant, i.e. as $y a, y i, y u$.





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## Lesson 26



Note : au sounds like $o w$ in cow or $o u$ in sound. It does not sound like the diphthong in the Urdu - Hindi word كون (who). In the Indian subcontint it is pronounced like this Urdu - Hindi diphthong which is wrong.





## Lesson 27



Note: If this letter has fathah, kasrah or dammah it is pronounced like. consonant, ie. as wa, wi, wu.

This letter is pronounced by bringing the corners of the mouth together It should not be pronounced like the English $v$ which is pronounced with th upper teeth coming in contact with the lower lip.




وَوْوْوْ


g'

## Lesson 28



Note: Like $z$ in $z o o$.



## Lesson 29






Note that this letter has a different form in the final position.


لِالِبـيُهِ


## Lesson 30



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## Lesson 31






## Lesson 32



Note: This is a lisped pronunciation of $z$. While pronoucing it the tip of the tongue is just below the front upper teeth.


Lesson 33


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## Lesson 34






قَوْمِيُ اَلْمَمَابِرُ مَقَامَ مَقَالِيْدُ


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## Lesson 35



Note : This is the velarized form of $t$. Velarization means slightly curving $t$ tongue and raising it towards the velum, i.e., the soft palate.


خْطُوَاتِ اَمْطَرْنَا خَطَايَانَا


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## Lesson 36



Note : This is the velarized form of $s$. For velarization see Lesson 35.














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## Lesson 37



Note: This letter is pronounced from the middle of the throat.






## Lesson 38



Note : This is a lisped pronunciation of $s$. While pronouncing it the tip of the tongue is just below the front upper teeth.



## Lesson 39



Note : This letter is pronounced from the middle of the throat.






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## Lesson 40



Note : This is the velarized form of $\dot{j}$ •For velarization see Lesson 35 .



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## Lesson 41



Note : This letter is pronounced by bringing the right side of the tongue close to the molars while raising the back of the tongue towards the velum.







| One dot above | No dot |
| :---: | :---: |
| da | sa |

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## Lesson 42



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بَرِتُءٌ

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { كَ كَ } \\
& \begin{array}{rl}
9 \quad 9 \\
g & 8
\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Lesson 43



Note : The letter hamzah has two basic forms: 1 and $s$. The second form is written either independently or above $g$ and يـ . If the medial hamzah has kasrah, it is written below the -ي . When hamzah is written above or below the letter يـيـ, its dots are omitted. See these forms in lessons 43 and 44.


## ـُ



## Lesson 44



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## Lesson 45



Note : Double fathah at the end of the word is pronounced an.



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Note: If the last letter is other than hamzah or round tâan alif is added with the double fathah, but this alif is not pronounced.


## Lesson 46



Note : Sometimes the sign of the long $a$ is written above the letter.


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## Lesson 47



Note: The inverted amah is pronounced long $\hat{u}$.


## Lesson 48



Note: The vertical kasrah is pronounced long i.


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## Lesson 49

| $\underline{L}$ | 5 |
| :---: | :---: |
| bâ | b $\hat{i}$ |

Note : At the end of cetrain words the letter $\mathcal{S}$ is written which is not pronounced. It is always preceded by either the short alif or double fathah. If preceded by double fathah it is pronounced an as هُذًى hudan, سُلًى sudan.





## Lesson 50



Note: An calif without any vowel-sign following a $w a ̂ w(g)$ at the end of word is not pronounced, eeg. تَابُو tâbû.


## Lesson 51



Note: An alif without any vowel-sign at the beginning of a word is not pronounced when preceded by another word.


## Lesson 52



Note: The letter waw (g) without a vowel - sign is not pronounced in certain words, e.g., $\quad$ ز كـوَو $\quad$ which is pronounced : zakāt-un.


## Lesson 53



Note: The letter waw ( $و$ ) without any vowel - sign is not pronounced in certain words, e.g., اُو لُو which is pronounced': 'ulû, not : 'ûlû


## Lesson 54



Note: A long a, i or u is shortened if followed by the unpronounced calif mentioned in Lesson 51.


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## Lesson 54(A)

## The lunar\& the solar letters اَلْحُرُوُفُ الْقَمَرِيَّةُوَالْحُرُوْفُ الشَّمْسِسَّةُ

| The lunar letters |  | ألْحُرُوُفُ الْقَمَريَّةُ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| The father |  | 1 |
| The door | الكّبِبا | + |
| The neighbour | ألْجَا | T |
| Praise | ألْ | C |
| The bread | آلـنٌ | $\dot{\text { ¢ }}$ |
| The eye |  | $\varepsilon$ |
| The cloud |  | $\dot{c}$ |
| The mouth | أَلْفَـَمُم | i |
| The moon |  | ق |
| The dog |  | 5) |
| The water |  | 1 |
| The air | الْ | $\pm$ |
| The boy |  | 9 |
| The hand |  | $\checkmark$ |

## Lesson 54 (B)

| The solar letters |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| The fig |  | ت |
| The dress |  | ث |
| The house | ألـَّارْ | 2 |
| The male | أكـلَّ كَكُ | j |
| The man | ألـرّهُحـلٌ | $\bigcirc$ |
| The olive |  | j |
| The year |  | $\sim$ |
| The sun | أكـشَّـمُمُسُو | ش |
| The fast | الكصّومٌ | $ص$ |
| The guest |  | ض |
| The birds |  | b |
| The shadow | أكضِّلٌّ | ظ |
| The meat | الكَّ حـمُم | $J$ |
| The light | ألكنّؤوزُ | ن |

The tip or the blade of the tongue is used in pronouncing the solar letters.
 not ai-tinu

Lesson 54 (C) THE ARABIC LETTERS
AND THEIR NAMES

| $\square$ | $\bigcirc$ | $\stackrel{ \pm}{5}$ | $\stackrel{*}{ }$ | $\longrightarrow$ | 1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ḥā | jim | sā | tà | bā | alif |
| $\mathcal{N}^{\sim}$ | j | $\bigcirc$ | $j$ | 5 | $\stackrel{\circ}{2}$ |
| sin | zāy | rā | żāl | dāl | khā |
| $\varepsilon$ | b | 5 | ¢ | $\bigcirc$ | $\underbrace{\text { ¢ }}$ |
| 'ain | zā | tā | dạd | şād | shin |
| $\Gamma$ | $\bigcirc$ | 5 | $\ddot{\theta}$ | $\dot{g}$ | $\dot{c}$ |
| mim | lām | käf | qāf | fā | ghain |
|  | $s$ | $S$ | 9 | $\infty$ | $\dot{J}$ |
|  | hamzah | yā | wāw | hā | nūn |

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## Lesson 55

Letters can be joined to one another in different ways. Here are some examples:


Some letters have more than one form :


## Lesson 56

When a sâkin $ن$ at the end of a word is followed by $\mathcal{J} \cdot \mathcal{J}$ or $饣$, it gets totally assimilated to the following letter ${ }^{1}$. To indicate this, the letters J, ل and $\stackrel{\text { P carry shaddah, egg., }}{ }$

مَحْ لَّلُْنُّكَ is pronounced : mil ladunka (not : min ladunka). مِنَ رُّسُلِنَا is pronounced : mir rusulinâ (not : min rusulinâ). مَنْ

Read the following keeping in mind the rule of the assimilation of the sâkin nûn:

${ }^{\text {- }}$-This change happens in English also, egg., illegal for inlegal, immortal for inmortal, irregular for inregular.

## Lesson 56(A)

You know that the double dammah, the double fathah and the double kasrah, known as the tanwin, are pronounced un, an and in respectively. So the above-mentioned rule of assimilation applies to the tanwin also. When the tannin is followed by J , Jor $饣$, the $\dot{\mathrm{j}}$ of the tannin is assimilated to the following letter, e.g.,

وَيُلَّلْكُلِّ



## EXERCISE

Read the following keeping in mind the rule of the assimilation of the $n \bar{u} n$ and the tannin to the following $م$ ، a and J :






## Lesson 57

When a sâkin $\cup$ at the end of a word is followed by a $g$ or $v$ the $\mathcal{U}$ is partially assimilated to the following letter. The $g$ and $v$ are doubled in pronounciation, but the nasality of the $ن$ is retained, e.g., مِنْ وَّإِّ is pronounced : mix wāl (not : min wāl)
منَن يَّشَآَكُ is pronounced : may yashā'(not : man yashā).
Here the vowels $i$ and $a$ are pronounced like the vowels in the Urdu-Hindi words नहीं $\mathcal{U}$ (not) and यहाँ U (here).

## EXERCISE

「


范

يَّ


## Lesson 58

When a $\operatorname{sakin}$ ن is followed by a $ب$, the $ن$ changes to $p^{2}$. To indicated this a small $P$ is written aboved the $\mathcal{U}$, e.g.,
مِنْ بَبيَنِ It is pronounced : mim baini (not : min baini).
This rule applies to the nûn of the tanwin also, e.g., . This is pronounced: ṣumm-um bukm-un (not: ṣumm-un bukm-un) This change happens even if the $ن$ and the $ب$ are in a single word, e.g.,


## EXERCISE


${ }^{2}$ - This change happens in English also, e.g., imbalance for inbalance.

## Lesson 59

Assimilation takes place in other letters also. This is indicated by a shaddah on the letter following a sâkin letter, e.g.,

قَقْتَبَيَّنَ This is pronounced : qat tabayyana (not : quad tabayyana)
بَلُّرَّفَعَهُ اللّ
There are some types of assimilation which are rare, e.g., , إِكَبْ مَعَنَا This is pronounced : irkam ma‘anâ (not irkab...).

نَخْخُقُقُكُمْ


نَ



## Lesson 60 (A)

If a word ending in tanwin is followed by hamzat al-waṣl, the tanwîn is written as a small $ن$ belöw the hamzat al-waṣl, and this j carries kasrah, e.g.,
This is pronounced : nûḥu nibnahû

急




'- The hamzat al-waṣl is an alif at the beginning of a word which is pronounced only when it is not preceded by any other word. When preceded by another word this alif is not pronounced. This alif has no sign above or below it, e.g., فَصَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ وَانُحَرَ .

## Lesson 60 (B)

You know that double fathah is written with an alif which is not pronounced. This holds good also when the double fathah is followed by the small $\boldsymbol{U}$, e.g.,

- This is pronounced : alîma nillazîina (not : alîma ...)



## Lesson 61

If the long vowels $1, \Omega$ and $g$ carry this $\operatorname{sign}(\sim)$, or this sign ( ) they are pronounced with further lengthening, e.g.,
 takes thrice as much time as the pronounciation of the normal $\bar{a}$ takes.

## Exercise






## Lesson 62

The letter having this sign ( x ) is not pronounced, e.g., " لِكِنَّ This is pronounced : lâkinna (not: lâkinna).



蚗

念 قَوَ


## Lesson 63

When we pause at a word either at the end of an ayah or in the middle of it, the fathah, kasrah, dammah; and the double kasrah and double zammah at the end of a word are omitted, e.g., الَلُّْ الصَّحَمُلُ This is pronounced : allâhu ṣ-ṣamad (not:ṣ-ṣamad-u). Here ar-raḥim-i is pronounced : ar-raḥim. رَبِّ الْعَلْمِيَنَ $\quad$ Here ‘âlamîn-a is pronounced :'âlamîn. قُلْ هُوْاللهُّ اَحَحُّ مِنْ سِجْتِّلٍ Here sijjî1-in is pronounced : sijjîl.
Double fathah, however, is not omitted, but it is pronounced al e.g.,


## Exercise






$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { 少 }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Exercise

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { \& }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { خِلِِيْنَ فِيْهَا وَبِئُسَ الْمَصِيرُ هُ }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Lesson 64

You already know that the letter $\ddot{\delta}$ occurs only at the end of a word. When we pause at a word ending with this letter, its vowel is omitted like the vowel of the other letters as explained in the previous lesson. In addition to that, this letter is changed from $t$ to $h$, e.g.,
This is pronounced : ulâ’ika hum sharru l-bariyyah (not : sharru l-bariyyat).


## Lesson 65

## Exercise











AT-TIBY ĀN presents a scientific method to learn to read the Glorious Qur'an. This method is based on the following factors :

1) Arabic speech-sounds identical with those of the student's language are presented first, followed by those that are similar but not identical. Arabic speech-sounds which are not found in the student's language are taught at the end of the programme.
2) Consonants are presented with the vowel-signs from the very beginning.
3) At the very outset the student is made to read real words.
4) The words used in each lesson contain only letters, vowel-signs, rules, etc. which have already been taught. So the student can read all these words by himself without the teacher's help.
Taught in this manner, learning the Arabic alphabet becomes a pleasure and learning time is considerably reduced.

Dr. V. ABDUR RAHIM has been associated with the work of teaching Arabic as a foreign language for more than twenty five years. He is the author of many research books. His books "al-mus' if fi-lughati wa i'rabi sūrati yūsif," "Nüsus mina 'I-hadithi n'-nabawiyyi 'sh-sharif" have been already published in India. A book titled, "Haj, Umra and Ziyarah" in English has also been published. He has served as a Professor in the Department of Teaching Arabic as a Foreign Language at the Islamic University of Medina for two decades and at present he is serving as the Director, Translation Centre, King Fahd Quran Printing Complex, Madinah Munawarah.

ISLAMIC FOUNDATION TRUST, CHENNAI is an organisation devoted to make Islam a living reality in our age. For this purpose, it aims at improving human communication and developing a better understanding of Islam among all people of the world, Muslim and non-Muslim, so as to galvanise man to the message and ideal of One God and the unity of mankind, as brought by all the Prophets of God throughout the ages, last of whom was Prophet Muhammad (blessing of Allah and peace be upon him). An important aspect of the Foundation's multifarious activities is publication of literature on Islam.

