

Noorani Qaida — The Basics

A beginner's guide to reading the Arabic of the Holy Quran

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

The Noorani Qaida is the first step of every Quran student. It teaches the Arabic letters, their sounds, and how they join together — so that you can read the Holy Quran correctly with Tajweed. Use this booklet alongside your live classes at Aziz Online Quran Academy, where a qualified teacher will guide your pronunciation letter by letter.

Lesson 1 — The Arabic Alphabet (Huroof-e-Tahajji)

Arabic has 29 basic letters, read from right to left. Learn the name and the sound of each letter with your teacher.

ا Alif	ب Ba	ت Ta	ث Sa (Tha)	ج Jeem
ح Hha	خ Kha	د Daal	ذ Zaal	ر Ra
ز Za	س Seen	ش Sheen	ص Suad	ض Duaad
ط Tua	ظ Zua	ع Ain	غ Ghain	ف Fa
ق Qaaf	ك Kaaf	ل Laam	م Meem	ن Noon
و Wao	ه Ha	ء Hamza	ي Ya	

Lesson 2 — Harakaat (Short Vowels)

Harakaat are the small marks written above or below a letter. They give the letter its short sound. There are three harakaat:

بَ

Fatha (■) — A small stroke above the letter — gives an "a" sound: "ba"

بِ

Kasra (■) — A small stroke below the letter — gives an "i" sound: "bi"

بُ

Damma (■) — A small waw above the letter — gives a "u" sound: "bu"

Lesson 3 — Tanween (Double Vowels)

Tanween is a double harakah at the end of a word. It adds an "n" sound:

بَانٌ • بَيْنٌ • بُونٌ

"ban" (double fatha) • "bin" (double kasra) • "bun" (double damma)

Lesson 4 — Sukoon and Madd Letters

Sukoon (■) is a small circle above a letter. It means the letter has no vowel and is joined quickly with the letter before it, e.g.:

أَبٌ • إِبٌ • أُبٌ

"ab" • "ib" • "ub"

Madd letters (■ ■ ■) stretch the sound of the letter before them, making the vowel long — "baa", "boo", "bee":

بَاً • بُوً • بِيً

"baa" • "boo" • "bee"

Practice tip: Read each lesson aloud with your teacher in your live class. Correct pronunciation (Makharij) can only be perfected by listening and repeating with a qualified tutor. Book your 3-day free trial today!