

Lesson
50

Rules for Starting & Stopping of the Recitation

You stop while reciting to take breath, it is called Waqf وقف. When you want to stop break the sound and take breath but make sure that you stop at a place where meanings are not distorted. Take care of the following rules.

Rule-01: If there is a **Fathah**, **Kasrah** or **Dhammah** on the last letter then make it Saakin.



شَكَرٌ	←	شَكَرَ	—
وَالْعَصْرُ	←	وَالْعَصِرِ	—
وَالْفَتْحُ	←	وَالْفَتْحِ	—

Rule-02: If there is Standing Fathah on the last letter then read it as it is. And if Standing Kasrah or Inverted Dhammah is there then make it Saakin.

ظَهْ	←	ظَهْ	—
مَأْوَى	←	مَأْوَى	
رَبِّهْ	←	رَبِّهْ	—
بِهْ	←	بِهْ	
رَبُّهْ	←	رَبُّهْ	—
لَهْ	←	لَهْ	

Rule-03: If the last letter or its preceding letter has Double Fathah then read it with single Fathah similar to the sound of Alif-Madd. And if there is Double Kasrah and Double Dhammah, then make it Saakin.



تَوَّابًا	←	تَوَّابًا	ا
مَاءًا	←	مَاءًا	ء
هُدًى	←	هُدًى	ى
مُسْمًى	←	مُسْمًى	
بِنَهْرًا	←	بِنَهْرًا	ِ
بَشَرًا	←	بَشَرًا	َ

Rule-04: If the last letter is having Shaddah then we have three rules.

4a: If the last letter is having Shaddah with Fathah, Kasrah or Dhammah then stop at Shaddah.



الْمُسْتَقَرَّ	←	الْمُسْتَقَرُّ	ّ
السَّامِرِيَّ	←	السَّامِرِيُّ	ّ

4b: If Meem or Noon is the last letter and if it contains Shaddah with Fathah or Kasrah or Dhammah then stop there with Ghunnah without any harkaat.

الْغَمَّ	←	الْغَمِّ	م
جَانَّ	←	جَانِّ	ن

4c: If any of the Qalqalah letter comes at the end and that letter contains Shaddah with Fathah or Kasrah or Dhamma then stop there making a strong Qalqalah.

قَطَّبَ جَدَّ ← قَطَّبَ جَدِّ

بِالْحَقِّ	←	بِالْحَقِّ	ء
فِي الْحَجِّ	←	فِي الْحَجِّ	
تَبَّ	←	تَبَّ	

Rule-05: If the last letter is Saakin then read it as it is.

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أَعْمَالَهُمْ	←	أَعْمَالَهُمْ	٢
حِسَابِيَهُ	←	حِسَابِيَهُ	

Four Special Rules for Stopping

Sp. Rule-01: In Arabic language Round Ta (ة) is used for feminine. For example: مُسَلِّمَةٌ، مُؤْمِنَةٌ، صَالِحَةٌ. If you want to stop on such a round taa (ة) then change this round taa (ة) into ha (ه) and make it Saakin.

ة ة ة ← ه ه ه

الْقَاضِيَةُ	←	الْقَاضِيَةٌ	ة
الْقِيَامَةُ	←	الْقِيَامَةٌ	ة
الْقَارِعَةُ	←	الْقَارِعَةٌ	ة

ة ة ة ← ه ه ه

مُسَلِّمَةٌ	←	مُسَلِّمَةٌ	ة
رَاضِيَةٌ	←	رَاضِيَةٌ	ة
هَاطِيَةٌ	←	هَاطِيَةٌ	ة

Sp. Rule-02: If the last letter is Alif-Madd or Yaa-Madd or Waaw-Madd then stop there in that Madd condition.

ا ا ا

هَذَا	←	هَذَا	ا
لِذِكْرِي	←	لِذِكْرِي	ي
وَأَعْبُدُوا	←	وَأَعْبُدُوا	و

Sp. Rule-03: If there comes an Alif-Madd or Yaa-Madd or Waaw-Madd before the last letter then recite this Alif-Madd or Yaa-Madd or Waw Madd stretching the sound upto 2, 4 or 6 Harakaat and make the last letter Saakin. This generally occurs at the end of an ayah.



سا + يَ + نُو ← سا + يَ + نُو

تُكَذِّبُنْ	←	تُكَذِّبُنْ	سا +
الرَّحِيمِ	←	الرَّحِيمِ	يَ +
فَيَكُونُ	←	فَيَكُونُ	نُو +

Sp. Rule-04: If there comes a soft Yaa or a soft Waaw before last letter then recite this Soft Yaa or Soft Waw stretching the sound upto 2, 4 or 6 Harakaat and make the last letter Saakin.

يَ + نُو ← يَ + نُو

وَالصَّيْفِ	←	وَالصَّيْفِ	يَ +
خَوْفٍ	←	خَوْفٍ	نُو +

Rules for Re-starting the Recitation after stopping

Generally there used to be a sign on first letter of every Ayah for example: **إِنَّا أَعْطَيْنَكَ الْكَوْثَرَ ﴿١﴾**

﴿٢﴾ فَصَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ وَأَنْحَرِ ﴿٢﴾ If any word starts with Letter Alif, then a little problem comes there because if letter Alif comes in the beginning it has no sound. Actually it is called Hamza Alwasl which has certain rules:

Rule-01: If any word, starts with Alif and Laam (الَ ، اَلِ) then start reciting it with Alif, Fathah over it.

الْحَمْدُ ←	الْحَمْدُ
الَّذِي ←	الَّذِي
الَّذِينَ ←	الَّذِينَ

Examples:

وَقُلِ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ سَيُرِيكُمْ آيَاتِهِ
 -- الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ سَيُرِيكُمْ آيَاتِهِ

Start from ا

شَهْرُ رَمَضَانَ الَّذِي أُنزِلَ فِيهِ الْقُرْآنُ
 ---الَّذِي أُنزِلَ فِيهِ الْقُرْآنُ

Start from ا

وَلَقَدْ عَلِمْتُمُ الَّذِينَ اعْتَدَوْا مِنْكُمْ فِي السَّبْتِ
 ---الَّذِينَ اعْتَدَوْا مِنْكُمْ فِي السَّبْتِ

Start from ا

Rule-02: If any word starts with Alif and with a Saakin letter, and a Fathah or Kasrah is there on the letter followed by the Saakin letter then recite it as Alif with Kasrah. such as :

اَذْهَبَ ← اِذْهَبَ
اَضْرَبَ ← اِضْرَبَ

Examples:

قَالَ اَذْهَبْ فَمَنْ تَبِعَكَ مِنْهُمْ
-- اِذْهَبْ فَمَنْ تَبِعَكَ مِنْهُمْ

Start from اِ

فَقُلْنَا اضْرِبْ بِعَصَاكَ الْحَجَرَ
-- اِضْرِبْ بِعَصَاكَ الْحَجَرَ

Start from اِ

Rule-03: If any word starts with Alif and with a Saakin letter, and a Dhammah is there on the letter followed by the Saakin letter then recite it as Alif with Dhammah. such as:

اِنْ اَشْكُرْ لِيْ وَلِوَالِدَيْكَ
-- اِشْكُرْ لِيْ وَلِوَالِدَيْكَ

Start from اِ

اَشْكُرْ ← اِشْكُرْ

Rule-04: Same rules will apply for Shaddah. such as:

اَتَّبِعُوا ← اِتَّبِعُوا

اِتَّبَاعَ ← اِتَّبَاعَ

اَتَّبِعُوا ← اِتَّبِعُوا

Stop Signs during Tilawat (Reading Qur'an)

There are stop signs in Holy Qur'an. The purpose of these signs are to ensure that we recite Qur'an properly and not commit mistakes in the meanings of the verse. It should be clear to understand the verse to the reader as well as the listener. If there is more than one sign then the first upper most sign will be preferred to follow. For almost every case, an example vers is provided below it.

Sign	Meaning	Explanation	Examples
م	Compulsory	You must stop here otherwise the meaning will be mixed up.	لَقَدْ سَمِعَ اللَّهُ قَوْلَ الَّذِينَ قَالُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ فُقِيرٌ وَنَحْنُ أَغْنِيَاءُ سَكَتُ مَا قَالُوا
○	Given at the verse ending along with the Ayah number.	Stopping here is the Sunnah of the Prophet (pbuh).	وَإِنَّهُ لَحَقُّ الْيَقِينِ ﴿٥١﴾
سكته س	Pause	Stop here for a duration of two Harakah without taking breath and then continue.	وَقَبِلَ مَنْ رَاقٍ ﴿٢٧﴾
وقفة	Stop	It is a long Saktah. Stop for a longer time but don't take any breath and then continue.	رَبَّنَا وَلَا تُحَمِّلْنَا مَا لَا طَاقَةَ لَنَا بِهِ وَاعْفُ عَنَّا وَاعْفِرْ لَنَا وَارْحَمْنَا أَنْتَ مَوْلَانَا فَانصُرْنَا عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْكَافِرِينَ ﴿٢٨٦﴾
مع مع	Pair of 3 dots.	Stop at one of them.	ذَلِكَ الْكِتَابُ لَا رَيْبَ فِيهِ هُدًى لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ
ط	Stop	Better to stop at this sign.	يُضِلُّ بِهِ كَثِيرًا وَيَهْدِي بِهِ كَثِيرًا وَمَا يُضِلُّ بِهِ إِلَّا الْفَاسِقِينَ ﴿٣٦﴾
قف	Stop	Stop here.	أُولَئِكَ عَلَيْهِمْ صَلَوَاتٌ مِّن رَّبِّهِمْ وَرَحْمَةٌ وَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُهْتَدُونَ ﴿١٥٧﴾

Sign	Meaning	Explanation	Examples
ج صل	Permissible	Here you are given choice, You may stop or continue.	يُخَدِّعُونَ اللَّهَ وَالدِّينَ اٰمِنُوۡاۙ وَمَا يَخْدَعُوْنَ اِلَّا اَنْفُسَهُمْ وَمَا يَشْعُرُوْنَ
لا O	لا on the circle	Here you are given choice, You may continue or stop.	اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ رَبِّ الْعٰلَمِيْنَ ﴿٢﴾
ز ص ق ج صل		Better to continue recitation	وَلَا تَشْتَرُوْا بِالْبَيْتِ ثَمَنًا قَلِيْلًاۗ وَّرٰٓيَۤا فَاَتَّقُوْنَ ﴿٤١﴾ فَاَخْرَجَهُمَا مِمَّا كَانَا فِيْهِۗ ذٰلِكَ بِمَا عَصَوْا وَّكَانُوْا يَعْتَدُوْنَ ﴿١١٢﴾ وَاللّٰهُ يَدْعُوْا اِلَى الْحَنَّةِ وَالْمَغْفِرَةِ بِاٰذَنِهِۦۙ اُوْلٰٓئِكَ يَدْعُوْنَ اِلَى النَّارِۙ
لا	No Stopping	If you stop here, you will give a wrong meaning. If you do that due to some constraint, then repeat the verse from the beginning or 2, 3 words before it taking care of the meanings.	اَلَّذِيْنَ تَتَوَفَّيْهُمُ الْمَلٰٓئِكَةُ طَيِّبِيْنَۙ يَقُوْلُوْنَ سَلٰمٌ عَلَيْكُمْۙ اَدْخُلُوا الْجَنَّةَ بِمَا كُنْتُمْ تَعْمَلُوْنَ ﴿٣٢﴾