

# Introduction to Arabic

Lesson 1.

Date: 7/11/10

# The History of the Arabic Language

- The first documented record of written Arabic dates from the early 4th century AD, its use in the early 7th century as the language of the Qur'an led Arabic to become the major world language that it is today.
- Arabic is part of the Semitic subgroup of Afro-Asiatic languages.
- There are three distinct forms of Arabic:
  1. Classical or Qur'anical Arabic
  2. Formal or Modern Standard Arabic
  3. Spoken or Colloquial Arabic

# Facts about the Arabic Language

- Arabic has been a language for more than 1,500 years
- It is thought to be derived from the Aramaic script
- Over 200 million people speak
- Arabic is the primary language for more than 22 countries (mainly in the Middle East and North Africa)

# The Arabic Letters

IPA	Value	Name	Final	Medial	Initial	Isolated	IPA	Value	Name	Final	Medial	Initial	Isolated
[d]	d	dād	ض	ض	ض	ض	[ʔ]	ʔ(a)	alif	ا	—	—	ا
[t]	t	taʾ	ط	ط	ط	ط	[b]	b	baʾ	ب	ب	ب	ب
[z]	z	zāʾ	ظ	ظ	ظ	ظ	[t]	t	tāʾ	ت	ت	ت	ت
[ʕ]	ʕ	ʕayn	ع	ع	ع	ع	[θ]	θ	thāʾ	ث	ث	ث	ث
[ɣ]	ɣ	ghayn	غ	غ	غ	غ	[ʒ]	ʒ	jīm	ج	ج	ج	ج
[f]	f	fāʾ	ف	ف	ف	ف	[ħ]	ħ	hāʾ	ح	ح	ح	ح
[q]	q	qāf	ق	ق	ق	ق	[x]	x	khāʾ	خ	خ	خ	خ
[k]	k	kāf	ك	ك	ك	ك	[d]	d	dāl	د	—	—	د
[l]	l	lām	ل	ل	ل	ل	[ð]	ð	dhāl	ذ	—	—	ذ
[m]	m	mīm	م	م	م	م	[r]	r	rāʾ	ر	—	—	ر
[n]	n	nūn	ن	ن	ن	ن	[z]	z	zāy	ز	—	—	ز
[h]	h	hāʾ	ه	ه	ه	ه	[s]	s	sīn	س	س	س	س
[w]	w	wāw	و	—	—	و	[ʃ]	ʃ	shīn	ش	ش	ش	ش
[j]	y	yāʾ	ي	ي	ي	ي	[ʕ]	ʕ	ṣād	ص	ص	ص	ص

# The Arabic Letters

ا ب ت ث ح

ح خ د ذ ر ز

س ش ص ض

ط ظ ع غ ف

ق ك ل م

ن ه و ي (هـ)

# The Consonants

ب ت ث

ح ح ح  
د د ر ز ح

س س ش ص ض

ط ظ ع غ

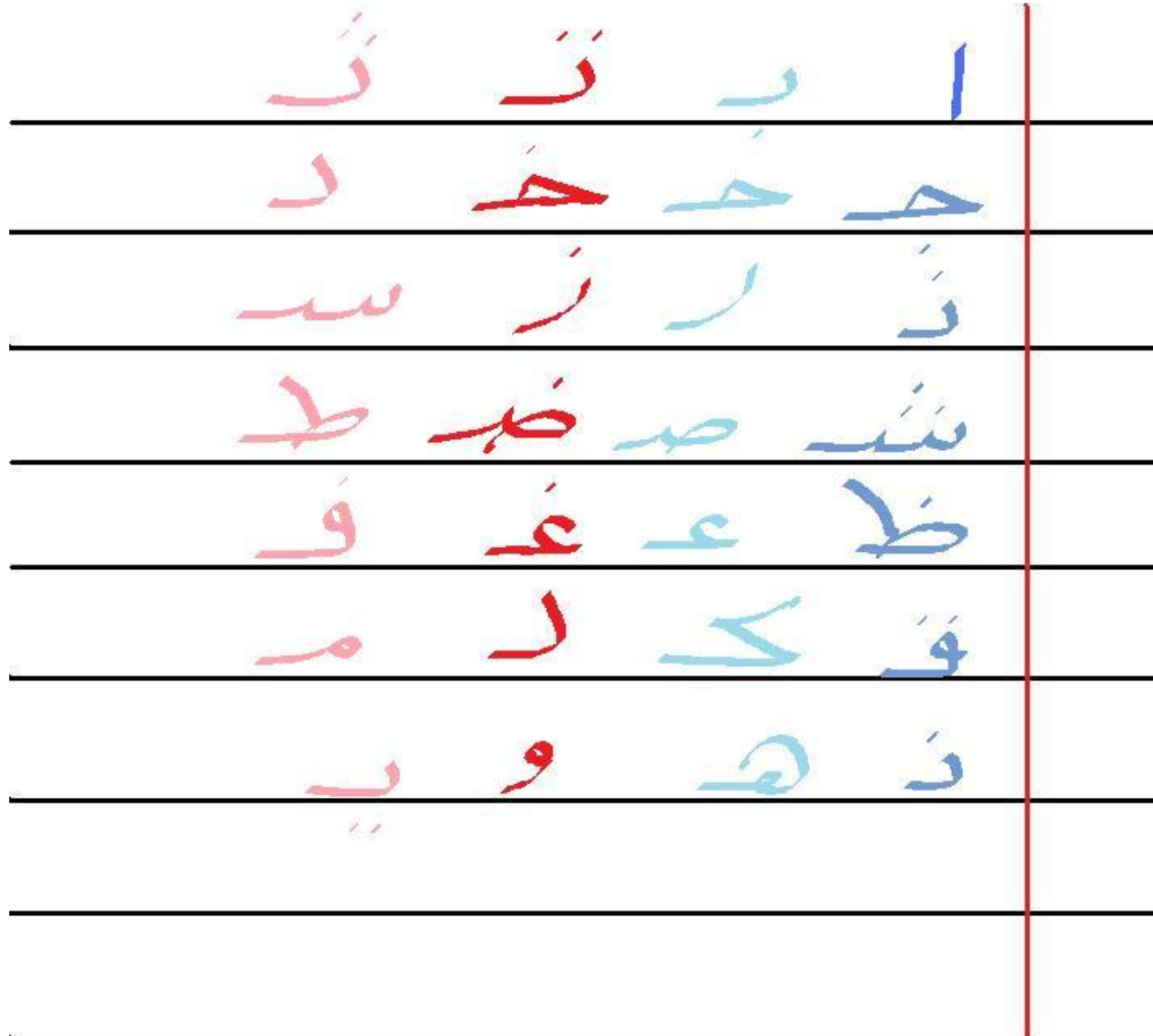
ف ف ك

ل م ن ه

# The Arabic Letters at the end of a Word

ت	ب	ا
ح	ح	ث
د	د	خ
س	ز	ر
ض	ص	ش
ع	ظ	ط
ق	ف	غ
م	ل	ك
و	ه	س
		ي

# The Arabic Letters at the beginning of a Word





# The Arabic Letters in a Word

Alif Lam Dal Ta  
Ha Kha Dal Dal  
Za Ra Ra Ra  
Shin Sad Zay Za  
Za Za Fa Fa  
Qaf Kaf Kaf Kaf  
Ta Ta Wa Wa

# The letters that only connect from one side

**At the beginning of the word**

ا د ذ ر  
ز و

**At the end and in the word**

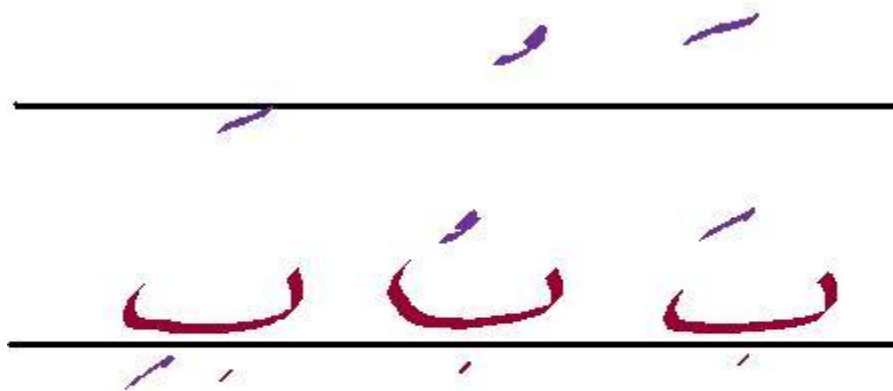
**Only connected to the letter on the right**

ا ا ا  
د د د  
ر ر ر  
ز ز و

# The Long Vowels

س ا

# The Short Vowels (accents)



# Other Signs

و ٓ ٔ ٖ ٘ ٙ

بُ بَ بِ

بِّ بٌ بِّ

# Pronunciations of the Letters

- There are 3 cavities and 2 organs needed to properly pronounce all 29 of the Arabic letters and they are:
  1. The empty space in the throat and mouth- 3 letters
  2. The pharynx /throat and larynx – 6 letters
  3. The tongue – 17 letters
  4. The lips- 3 letters
  5. The nasal cavity- used in Qur'anic readings only

# Anatomy of the Throat

