

Chapter “3”

Relationships Between Letters

Any two letters are considered in direct relationship if they meet in writing, whether they meet in pronunciation such as the two Ba' in: {اضْرِبْ بِعَصَاكَ} or in writing only as the two Ha' with Waw of salah inbetween in {إِنَّهُ هُوَ}. They can be either in two words such as the previous example or in one word like: {سَلَكْتُمْ}.

The relationship between any two letters can be one of the **four categories**:

1- Motamathelan. 2- Motaganesan. 3- Motaqariban. 4- Motabae'dan.

Each of them can be one of three types:

A- Minor. B- Major. C- Absolute.

A- Minor (Saghir)

- **Definition:** Where the first letter is constant (sakin), and the second is mutaharik (has tashkeel/vowel)
- **Example:** {أَذْهَبْ بِكِتَابِي هَذَا}
- **Reason for name:** Named minor for being able to easily say Idgham due to the constant letter at its beginning.

B- Major (Kabir)

- **Definition:** Where both letters are with haraka (vowel)
- **Example:** In one word: {مَنَاسِكُكُمْ}, or in two words: {الرَّحِيمِ، مَالِكِ}
- **Reason for name:** Named major as the two letters are with haraka & so those readers who make Idgham do more work because the first letter must be made sukun and then perform Idgham.

C- Absolute (Motlaq)

- **Definition:** Where the first letter has a haraka and the second has a sukun
- **Example:** as in {مَا نَنْسَخُ}
- **Reason for name:** Named absolute because it has no relation to the minor or major.

The following are detailed explanations of the relationships between letters.

1- Motamathelan (Identical Letters)

- **Definition:** These are the letters that are identical in name, outlet and characteristics

- **Example:** like the two د in {وَقَدْ دَخَلُوا}.

- **Rules:**

A- Minor (Saghir): Must do **Idgham except** in 2 situations:

1. Where the first letter is a **Haa' of Sakt (Pause)** as in {مَالِيَهُ، هَلْكَ}: here Hafs has 3 options: Qata', Sakt with Izh-har and Wasl "joining" with Idgham.
2. Where the first letter is **Maad** that occurs only with Waw & Ya' as in {يَا لَيْتَ} or {قَوْمِي يَعْلَمُونَ} or {آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا} for which Izh-har is a must in the opinion of all scholars. The reason of Izhar differs with different opinions:
 - Izhar is an exception of the rule so that the Maad is not dropped with Idgham: This rule is based on the opinion of scholars who made the outlet of the Ya'a maddiah is from the middle of tongue & the Waw maddiah from the lips with those with Haraka.
 - Majority Opinion: Izhar is a must as they are considered Motaba'edin since they consider all 3 letters of Mad come from the Jawf there is no Tamathol here as the outlets are different.

If the letter before the Waw or Ya'a is with fatha, they become letters of Leen as {عَصَوَا وَكَانُوا} & {لَا تَخْتَصِمُوا لَدَيْ} , here all reciters make Idgham as Ya'a & Waw here are letters of Leen that come out from the same outlets of letters with haraka.

B- Major (Kabir): Must do **Izh-har** by Hafs **except** in 2 words:

1. **First word:** "مَكْنَى" .. in "قَالَ مَا مَكْنَى فِيهِ رَبِّي" in sorat AlKahf .. where its origin is "مكني" with two ن and Hafs read it with Idgham in the first ن into the second so it became مَكْنَى with one ن Moshadada.
2. **Second word:** {تَأْمَنَّا} that also has two option for Hafs that are based on Al Moshafaha (direct listening):
 - The first: Idgham with **Ishmam** (putting together the lip when pronouncing the first sukun ن during its Idgham to symbolize that the ن is original with a dhammah. As "تأمننا" is originally تَأْمَنَّا but the ن was made Idgham into the second ن to become تَأْمَنَّا.
 - The second: Doing **Rawm** in the first ن by keeping part of the
 - Dhamah only with a low pitched sound & here Izh-har must be done with it.

C-Absolute (Motlaq): Izh-har must be done as agreed upon by all scholars.

2- Motaganesan (Letters of One Makhraj)

- **Definition:** Letters that are identical in outlet & different in characteristics.

- **Note:** Some scholars consider Taganos is 2 types: Taganos Makhraj & Taganos Sifah (these are the letters identical in Sifat & different in Makhraj as the Non & Mem)

- **Types:** It's 3 Types:

- **Minor:** Like the ت and د in the example {أَجِيْبْتُ دَعْوَتُكُمَا}.
- **Major:** Like the ت and ط in the example {الصَّالِحَاتِ طُوبَى}.
- **Absolute:** Like the ت and ط in the example {أَفْتَطْمَعُونَ}.

- **Rule of the Motjanesaan:**

- **Must do Izh-har** in all its types, There are 8 situations in the **Minor** type **that do not follow** this rule:

- Six situations where **complete Idgham is agreed upon**, and they are:

- The ب that is followed by a م like in {ارْكَبْ مَعَنَا}
- The ت that is followed by a د like in {أَنْقَلْتُ دَعْوَا}
- The ت that is followed by a ط like in {إِذْ هَمَّتْ طَائِفَتَانِ}
- The ث that is followed by a ذ like in {يَلْهَيْتُ ذَلِكَ}
- The د that is after a ت like in {وَمَهَّدْتُ}
- The ذ that is followed by a ظ like in {إِذْ ظَلَمْتُمْ}

- A situation where **Incomplete Idgham** is agreed upon: The ط that is followed by a ت like in {أَحَطْتُ}.

- A situation that is disagreed upon whether it is **Izh-har or Ekhfaa'**: The م that is followed by a ب like in {تَرْمِيهِمْ بِحِجَارَةٍ}.. And Ekhfaa' is the opinion of the majority

3- Motaqariban (Close Letters)

- **Definition:** They are the two letters that are close in makhraj (articulation point/outlet) and/or sifa (characteristic).

- **Types:** There are 3 types, and each type has three sections:

First Type: Two letters close in outlet and characteristics.

- **Minor:** Like, the ت with the ث in the example {كَذَّبْتُ نَمُودُ}.
- **Major:** Like the ق with the ك in the example {مِنْ فَوْقِكُمْ}.
- **Absolute:** Like the ت with the ث in the example {وَلَا يَسْتَنْتُونَ}.

Second Type: Where the letters are similar in outlet only.

- **Minor:** Like the د with the س in the example {قَدْ سَمِعَ}.
- **Major:** Like the د with the س in the example {عَدَدَ سِنِينَ}.
- **Absolute:** Like the س with the ن in the example {سُنْدُسٍ}.

Third Type: Two letters similar in characteristics only.

- **Minor:** Like the ذ with the ج in the example {إِذْ جَاءُوكُمْ}.
- **Major:** Like the ق with the د in the example {قَدَرِ مَعْلُومٍ}.
- **Absolute:** Like the ق with the ط in the example {يَلْتَقِطُهُ}.

- Rule of the Motaqariban:

- For all three types of the proximate letters **Izh-har is a must** for Hafs
- However, this rule **does not apply** for the **Minor** Motaqariban letters in all three types in **32 different situations**.

- Situations where **Idgham** is agreed upon (19 situations):

- The silent ن with the following four letters (ر, ل, و, ي) **except** for the following situations:
 - The ن and و in {ن وَالْقَلَمِ}، {بِسِ وَالْقُرْآنِ} as they were narrated with Izh-har.
 - The ر in {مَنْ رَاقٍ} as it is narrated with a pause (no breathing), and his pause prevents Idgham.
(Notice: We did not mention the ن and م as part of the letters to do Idgham for because they are with the ن Motamathlan and with the م Motjanesaan.)
 - The ل Al-shamseya with its 13 letters after dropping the ل because it is the same identical letter (Motamathelan).
 - The ل in (قَل) and (بَل) which is followed by a ر with the exception of {بَلَّ رَانَ} where a pause (no breath) is a must.

- A situation where it is disagreed upon whether to do **Complete Idgham** or **incomplete Idgham**: When the ق comes with the ك in {نَخْلُكُمْ} especially due to the two narrations by Hafs:

- **Complete Idgham** which is most common: Merging the ق completely into the ك so that none of its characteristics appear such as its Esta'ala' (elevation) and its Qalqala ... The Shateby did not recite in any other manner.
- **Incomplete Idgham**: Maintaining some of the characteristics of the ق such as its Esta'ala' and disregard the Qalqala.

- **Situation where Iqlab is agreed upon:** Where the ن is followed by ب .
- **Situation where Ikhfa' is agreed upon (13 situations):** When the ن comes before the letter of true Ikhfa' except for the ق and ك because they are considered far from the ن .

4- Motba'dan (Distant Letters)

- **Definition:** They are letters that are distant from each other in outlets and have different characteristics

- **Examples:**

- Distance of makhraj (outlet) of the ت with the خ in {تُخْرِجُونَ}.
- Distance of outlets but similarity in characteristics like the ك with the ت like in {فَاكْتُوبُهُ}.

- **Types:** They are made up of 3 types:

- **Minor:** Like the ن with the خ in {الْمُحَنِّقَةُ}.
- **Major:** Like the د with the ه in {دِهَانًا}.
- **Absolute:** Like the ه with م in {أَنْفُسَهُمْ}.

- **Rule of the Motjba'dan:** Must perform Izh-har for all three types.

- There are two situations in which Ikhfa' is agreed upon in the minor Motba'dan, and they are:

- ن which is followed by ق, for example: {انْقَلَبُوا}.
- ن which is followed by ك, for example: {أَنْكَالًا}.

Review



- Any two letters that meet are one of the four divisions: Motamathelan, Motaganesan, Motaqariban, Motabae'dan.
- Each one of these four divisions has three types: A- Saghir, B- Kabir, C- Motlaq.
- The Motamathelan are two letters that are identical in name, outlet (makhraj) and characteristics.
- The Motaqariban are two letters that are close in makhraj (articulation point/outlet) and/or sifa (characteristic).
- The Motaganesan letters are identical in outlet & different in characteristics.
- The Motabae'dan are two letters that are distant in makhraj and different in characteristics.

Test Your Knowledge!



A- Fill in the blanks:

1. The Motamathelan are _____.
2. The Motaqariban are two letters that are close in _____ or _____ or _____.
3. The rule of the Motamathelan kabir is _____ except in _____ and _____.
4. The rule of the Motabae'dan is _____ except in _____ and _____.
5. It is agreed upon that the word {أَحَطت} is _____.

B- Write the rule and its type for the following examples:

1. {فِي: {قَالَ مَا مَكَّنِّي فِيهِ رَبِّي "مَكَّنِي"}:.....
2. {مَنْ رَاقٍ:}.....
3. {قَدْرٍ مَغْلُومٍ:}.....
4. {يُلْهَثُ ذَلِكَ:}.....
5. {وَقَدْ دَخَلُوا:}.....