



ALI 707: Quranic Arabic & Knowledge, Level 2

Session 2: Wednesday Oct 1, 2025, 7:45 – 8:45 pm NY/Toronto time.

Description: Imam Muhammad al-Baqir (a) has said: Learn Arabic, for it is the word of Allah with which He speaks to His creation [in the Holy Quran]. In this online course, specially tailored for past and present Madrasah teachers, we will discuss simple Quranic vocabulary and grammar. To make it interesting, occasionally we will cover short stories and historical events in the Quran and their application in our daily lives. In this level, we will identify nouns and their different forms, a few verbs, and particles from Surahs Numbers 108 to 114 of the Quran.

Today's agenda: 1. a brief *tafsīr* of Sūrat al-Tawhīd 2. identifying the three broad categories of words in surahs al-ʿAsr and al-Kawthar in. 3. more examples of attaching pronouns to nouns. 4. identifying the detached pronouns in the first 20 verses of al-Baqarah. 5. the table on detached and attached pronouns.

سُورَةُ الْإِخْلَاصِ / al-Tawhīd / Sūrat al-Ikhlās

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ ﴿١﴾ اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ ﴿٢﴾ لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ ﴿٣﴾
وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ ﴿٤﴾

Bismillāh. Say, ‘He is Allah, the One. (1) Allah is the All-embracing. (2) He neither begat, nor was begotten, (3) nor has He any equal.’ (4)

The Unity of God. *This chapter lucidly expresses the fundamental belief of the Islamic faith: monotheism. Muslims include this chapter in their daily prayers. Unlike other chapters of the Qur’ān, which are named by a word within them, this chapter is named by its theme. “Al-Ikhlās” means sincerity in faith. It is also known as the Chapter of “at-Tawhīd,” which means the unity of God.*

1. Say, O Muhammad, “He, Allāh, is One in the absolute sense of unity;
2. Allāh is the everlasting Refuge on whom everything depends;
3. neither has He given birth nor has He been born;
4. and none is equal to Him.”

Brief tafsir of Sūrat al-Tawhīd

Bismillāh. It is one of most important and well-known chapters of the Quran. It summarizes well the fundamental creed of Divine monotheism (*Tawhīd*); revealed in Makkah. It is known as Sūrat al-Ikhlās because it introduces God in a manner that allows the believer understand His Being and Attributes and aid him in eliminating any trace of polytheism and thereby becomes sincere (*Mukhlis*) in devotion to God (*Tafsir Tadabbur*, p 74). Imam al-Sādiq عليه السلام: One who passes a day without reciting Sūrat *Qul Huwa Allāhu Ahad* in any of his five daily prayers will be told, ‘O servant of God! You are not amongst those who have prayed [as they ought to]. Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وآله: One who recites this chapter is like one who has recited one-third of the Quran. Imam Ali عليه السلام: Recite it 11 times after al-fajr and you will be saved from sins for the day. This is one of the 5 sūrahs which begin with *Qul*. v.1, it was in response to questioned the nature of God. It often appears because the Prophet was charged to convey the Divine message. *Huwa* response to “Who is He?” *Ahad* is ‘one’ in uniqueness & matchlessness. v.2 *Al-Samad* = eternally independent is unique to this surah. Al-Husayn (a) has explained al-Samad (Ibid, p 79). v.3 Allah is the Creator of humanity, not their parent. See Q 17:40 & 9:30; idolators believed the angels as the daughters of God, Jews believed Prophet ‘Uzayr as God’s son, and Christians believed Jesus as God’s son. v.4 Each verse in this surah is an explanation and expansion of the verse before it. Thus, *Say, ‘He is Allah, (the) One’*, implies that, *‘Allah, (is) the Eternally Independent.’* And in turn, this implies that, *‘He neither begets nor is He begotten, and therefore, ‘there is no one comparable to Him’.* (Ibid, p 82).

Attached pronoun with noun عَبْدٌ

Any differences between the two? ‘abd can also be rendered as servant.

Plural	Dual	Singular	person
عَبْدُهُمْ Their slave	عَبْدُهُمَا Their slave	عَبْدُهُ His slave	3 rd , masculine
عَبْدُهُنَّ Their slave	عَبْدُهُمَا Their slave	عَبْدُهَا Her slave	3 rd , feminine
عَبْدُكُمْ Your slave	عَبْدُكُمَا Your slave	عَبْدُكَ Your slave	2 nd , masculine
عَبْدُكِ Your slave	عَبْدُكُمَا Your slave	عَبْدُكِ Your slave	2 nd , feminine
عَبْدُنَا Our slave	عَبْدُنَا Our slave	عَبْدِي My slave	1 st . M & F

Answer to HW, Q 1, Session 1

Sūrah al-‘Asr and al-Kawthar categorized into nouns (*ism*), verbs (*fi‘l*) and particles (*harf*).

	Sūrat	al-	‘Asr	-	العصر	سُورَةُ		
حُسْرٍ	لَفِي	الْإِنْسَانَ	إِنَّ	وَالْعَصْرِ	الرَّحِيمِ	الرَّحْمَنِ	اللَّهِ	بِسْمِ
n	p + p	n	p	n + p	n	n	n	n + p
بِالصَّبْرِ	وَتَوَاصَوْا	بِالْحَقِّ	وَتَوَاصَوْا	الصَّالِحَاتِ	وَعَمِلُوا	آمَنُوا	الَّذِينَ	إِلَّا
n + p	v + p	n + p	v + p	n	v + p	v	n	p

Surat	Al-	Kawthar	-	الْكَوْثَرِ	سُورَةُ	
الْكَوْثَرِ	أَعْطَيْنَاكَ	إِنَّا	الرَّحِيمِ	الرَّحْمَنِ	اللَّهِ	بِسْمِ
n	n + n + v	n + p	n	n	n	n + p
الْأَبْتَرُ	هُوَ	شَانِكَ	إِنَّ	وَانْحَرْ	لِرَبِّكَ	فَصَلِّ
n	n	n + n	p	v + p	n + n + p	v + p

Different titles of Sūrat al-Fātihah

Bismillāh. Several sūrahs in the Holy Quran have more than one title, based of Hadiths, history and contents of the sūrahs.

- 1, Hadith from the Ma'sūmīn ﷺ, e.g., al-Mathānī mentioned by Imam al-Sādiq عليه السلام
- 2, referred to in Muslim history and tafāsīr as names were not divinely fixed.
- 3, content of the sūrah. E.g., chapter 17 is known as Sūrat Banī Isrā'il and al-Isrā'

Different titles of al-Fātihah are: Umm al-Kitāb, al-Sab' al-Mathānī, al-Hamd.

Homework: mention 7 sūrahs which have more than one title.

Al-Baqarah verses 1 - 20

Bismillāh. Homework. Highlight the attached pronouns.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ. ﴿١﴾ ذَلِكَ الْكِتَابُ لَا رَيْبَ فِيهِ ۚ هُدًى لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ ﴿٢﴾ الَّذِينَ يُؤْمِنُونَ بِالْغَيْبِ وَيُقِيمُونَ
الصَّلَاةَ وَمِمَّا رَزَقْنَاهُمْ يُنْفِقُونَ ﴿٣﴾ وَالَّذِينَ يُؤْمِنُونَ بِمَا أُنزِلَ إِلَيْكَ وَمَا أُنزِلَ مِن قَبْلِكَ وَبِالْآخِرَةِ هُمْ يُوقِنُونَ ﴿٤﴾
أُولَٰئِكَ عَلَىٰ هُدًى مِّن رَّبِّهِمْ ۖ وَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ ﴿٥﴾ إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا سَوَاءٌ عَلَيْهِمْ أُنذَرْتَهُمْ أَمْ لَمْ تُنذِرْهُمْ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ
﴿٦﴾ خَتَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَىٰ قُلُوبِهِمْ وَعَلَىٰ سَمْعِهِمْ ۖ وَعَلَىٰ أَبْصَارِهِمْ غِشَاوَةٌ وَلَهُمْ عَذَابٌ عَظِيمٌ ﴿٧﴾ وَمِنَ النَّاسِ مَن يَقُولُ
آمَنَّا بِاللَّهِ وَبِالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَمَا هُمْ بِمُؤْمِنِينَ ﴿٨﴾ يُخَادِعُونَ اللَّهَ وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَمَا يَخْدَعُونَ إِلَّا أَنفُسَهُمْ وَمَا يَشْعُرُونَ ﴿٩﴾
فِي قُلُوبِهِم مَّرَضٌ فَزَادَهُمُ اللَّهُ مَرَضًا ۖ وَلَهُمْ عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ ۖ بِمَا كَانُوا يَكْذِبُونَ ﴿١٠﴾ وَإِذَا قِيلَ لَهُمْ لَا تُفْسِدُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ قَالُوا
إِنَّمَا نَحْنُ مُصْلِحُونَ ﴿١١﴾ أَلَا إِنَّهُمْ هُمُ الْمُفْسِدُونَ وَلَكِن لَّا يَشْعُرُونَ ﴿١٢﴾ وَإِذَا قِيلَ لَهُمْ آمِنُوا كَمَا آمَنَ النَّاسُ قَالُوا
أَنُؤْمِنُ كَمَا آمَنَ السُّفَهَاءُ ۖ أَلَا إِنَّهُمْ هُمُ السُّفَهَاءُ وَلَكِن لَّا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿١٣﴾ وَإِذَا لَقُوا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا قَالُوا آمَنَّا وَإِذَا خَلَوْا
إِلَىٰ شِيَاطِينِهِمْ قَالُوا إِنَّا مَعَكُمْ إِنَّمَا نَحْنُ مُسْتَهْزِئُونَ ﴿١٤﴾ اللَّهُ يَسْتَهْزِئُ بِهِمْ وَيَمُدُّهُمْ فِي طُغْيَانِهِمْ يَعْمَهُونَ ﴿١٥﴾
أُولَٰئِكَ الَّذِينَ اشْتَرُوا الضَّلَالَةَ بِالْهُدَىٰ فَمَا رَبَحَتْ بِجَارَتِهِمْ وَمَا كَانُوا مُهْتَدِينَ ﴿١٦﴾ مَثَلُهُمْ كَمَثَلِ الَّذِي اسْتَوْقَدَ نَارًا فَلَمَّا
أُضَاءَتْ مَا حَوْلَهُ ذَهَبَ اللَّهُ بِنُورِهِمْ وَتَرَكَهُمْ فِي ظُلُمَاتٍ لَا يُبْصِرُونَ ﴿١٧﴾ صُمُّ بُكْمٌ عُمًى فَهُمْ لَا يَرْجِعُونَ ﴿١٨﴾
أَوْ كَصَيِّبٍ مِّنَ السَّمَاءِ فِيهِ ظُلُمَاتٌ وَرَعْدٌ وَبَرْقٌ يَجْعَلُونَ أَصَابِعَهُمْ فِي آذَانِهِم مِّنَ الصَّوَاعِقِ حَذَرَ الْمَوْتِ ۗ وَاللَّهُ مُحِيطٌ
بِالْكَافِرِينَ ﴿١٩﴾ يَكَادُ الْبَرْقُ يَخْطَفُ أَبْصَارَهُمْ ۖ كُلَّمَا أَضَاءَ لَهُمْ مَشَوْا فِيهِ وَإِذَا أَظْلَمَ عَلَيْهِمْ قَامُوا ۗ وَلَوْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ لَذَهَبَ
بِسَمْعِهِمْ وَأَبْصَارَهُمْ ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ ﴿٢٠﴾

Learning Quranic Arabic: other resources

1. Ali, Muhammad Mohar. *A Word for Word Meaning of the Qur'an*, 3 vols, Jami'yat Ihyaa' Minhaaj Al-Sunnah, PB, xiv + 2096 pp, Ipswich: 2003.
2. Jones, Alan. *Arabic Through the Qur'an*, The Islamic Texts Society, PB, xviii + 331 pp, Cambridge: 2005
3. Karya Bestari SDN, *Al-Quran al-Karim: Color Coded Word-by-Word al-Quran*; HB, 633 pp, Malaysia: 2021
4. Khattab, Mustafa. *The Clear Quran Dictionary*, Al-Furqan Foundations.
5. Parekh, Sh. Abdul Karim. *The Easy Dictionary of the Qur'an*, Farid Book Depot, HB, xxii + 242 pp, Delhi: 1998.
6. Younes, Munther. *The Routledge Introduction to Qur'anic Arabic*, Routledge Taylor & Francis Group, PB, xv + 338, NY: 2013.

The texts for the course

our past courses are available at <https://academyofislam.com/quranic-arabic/>

Ali Quli Qarai	Hafiza Iffat Hasan	AbdulWahid Hamid
<i>The Qur'an: with a phrase-by-phrase English translation</i>	<i>Qur'anic Language Made Easy</i>	<i>Access to Qur'anic Arabic</i>

