

PRINCIPLES OF TAJWEED

One who wishes to learn a science needs to know its principles so that he will gain insight into the sought science. There are several principles in the science of Tajweed that should be understood.

1. ITS DEFINITION by linguistic definition: Betterment
Applied definition: Articulating every letter from its articulation point and giving the letter its rights and dues of characteristics. Rights of the letters are its required characteristics that never leave it. The dues of the letters are its presented characteristics that are present in it some of the time, and not present at other times. i.e. the Idghaam.
2. ITS FORMATION The words of the Holy Quraan and some said honorable Hadeeths also.
3. ITS FRUITS It is preserving the tongue from mistake in pronunciation of the Holy Quraan during reading.
4. ITS PRECEDENCE It is one of the most honoured of sciences and amongst the best of them due to its relation to the words of Allah (swt)
5. ITS PLACE WITHIN THE SCIENCES It is one of the Islamic law sciences that are related with the Holy Quraan
6. ITS FOUNDER The rule setter from the practical point of view is the Messenger of Allah (s) because the Quraan was revealed to him from Allah, the most high, with Tajweed, and he, Prophet Muhammad (s), was instructed on it from the Trustworthy, Jibreel, (pbuh). The Prophet (s) taught it to his companions, who taught it to their followers and so on until it came to us by these chains. The rule setters from the scientific point of view are the scholars of Quranic Sciences, such as Abu Ubaid Al-Qasim bin Sallaam.
7. ITS PRECEPT The knowledge of Tajweed is FARDH KIFAAYAH, meaning some of the Muslim community must know it, and its application is FARDH 'AIN, meaning it is required by all Muslims (men and women) who have the complete Quraan or part of it memorized, even if only one Surah.
8. REASONS FOR THE RULES OF TAJWEED: Guarding the Glorious Quraan and preserving it from distortion. The Arabs mixed with non-Arabs after the spread of Islam, and the Muslims feared that the Arab tongue would become corrupted with this intermixing. It then became mandatory for rules to be put down that would preserve the Quranic reading from mistakes, and guarantee the reader of the Quraan integrity of pronunciation.
9. ITS PRINCIPLES: the knowledge of Tajweed is contingent on four matters:
 - a) Knowledge of the articulation points of the letters
 - b) Knowledge of the characteristics of the letter
 - c) Knowledge of what rules change in the letters due to the order of letters
 - d) Exercising the tongue and a lot of repetition

This note was issued by the Bridging the Gap, Quraan Reading and
Tajweed Assistance Program. © All Rights Reserved
Obtained from "Tajweed rules of the Qur'an"

Bridging the Gap™

Quraan Reading and Tajweed Assistance Program
An initiative by the Students of the Al-Manaar Hafieth Institute

BTG Headquarters: 161 Taronga Road, Rondebosch East, 7780, Cape Town, South Africa
Tel: 021 697 4214 - Cell: 073 966 2118 - Fax: 021 696 4214