

Definite Article + Sun Letters

The article (أداة التعريف)

The definite article “the” is “أل” in Arabic. “أل” is connected to the following noun. There is no indefinite article in Arabic.

e.g:

The house	الْبَيْت	<i>al-bayt</i>
The notebook	الْكُرَّاسَة	<i>al-kurrāsah</i>
The two	الْإِثْنَيْن	<i>al-ithnayn</i>
The person who is fasting	الصَّائِم	<i>aṣ-ṣa’em</i>

Although proper nouns are definite and therefore do not need the definite article, many Arabic names contain it.

If the noun preceded by the article begins with one of the following consonants (sun letters):

ت، ث، د، ذ، ر، ز، س، ش، ص، ض، ط، ظ، ل، ن

The "ل" of the article is assimilated and therefore not pronounced and the respective above-mentioned consonant is doubled, i.e., it takes the *Shaddah*.

		←	"الحروف الشمسية"
<i>at-tijārah</i>	(the business) التَّجَارَة	←	ت
<i>ath-thawr</i>	(the cow) الثَّوْر	←	ث
<i>ad-deen</i>	(the religion) الدِّين	←	د
<i>adh-dhanb</i>	(the sin) الذَّنْب	←	ذ
<i>ar-rūkū'</i>	(the bowing) الرُّكُوع	←	ر
<i>az-zilzāl</i>	(the earthquake) الزَّلْزَال	←	ز
<i>as-sūrah</i>	(the chapter) السُّورَة	←	س

<i>ash-shams</i>	(the sun) الشَّمْس	←	ش
<i>aṣ-ṣiraṭ</i>	(the path) الصِّرَاط	←	ص
<i>aḍ-ḍarb</i>	(the hitting) الضَّرْب	←	ض
<i>aṭ-ṭāhir</i>	(the pure) الطَّاهِر	←	ط
<i>az-zāhir</i>	(the apparent) الظَّاهِر	←	ظ
<i>al-lawḥ</i>	(the blackboard) اللُّوْح	←	ل
<i>an-nawm</i>	(the sleep) النَّوْم	←	ن