

L12

Arabic Alphabet (و-ى)/ Short Vowels

Imam Sajjad (PBUH):

“O Allah, make Qur’an a ladder by which I may climb to the place of safety”

The Holy Prophet (PBUH&HP):

«أعدى عَدُوَّكَ نَفْسَكَ الَّتِي بَيْنَ جَنَبَيْكَ»

“The worst of your enemies is the *nafs* within you”

Letter	Name	Transliteration	Pronunciation
و	واو	waaw	The equivalent English letter is ‘W’ as in ‘Word’

← وَلَّوْا (they turned their backs)

واو + فتحه : وَ

← وَ (and)

"أنا و علي أبوا هذه الأمة":

“Ali and me, (we) are the fathers of this nation.”

← وَرَاءَ (beyond)

← وَزَرَكَ (your burden)

واو + كسره : وِ

← وَعَاءَ (baggage)

واو + ضمّه : وُ ← (faces) وُجوه

← وُفِّيت (compensated)

Letter	Name	Transliteration	Pronunciation
ي	ياء	Yaa'	The equivalent English letter is 'Y' as in 'Young'

ياء + فتحه : يَ ← (they turned their backs) يَرَى

«أَلَمْ يَعْلَم بِأَنَّ اللَّهَ يَرَى» “Does not he know that Allah is watching him?”

ياء + فتحه : يَ ← (they turned their backs) يَرَى

← يَقُولُ (he says)

ياء + كسره : يِ ← مَيِّت (dead)

ياء + ضمّه : يُ ← (will be seen) يُرَى

← عَلِيٌّ (High)

← هَيِّن (easy)

«قال ربك هو عليّ هَيِّن» “Your Lord says it’s easy for me”

✚ Notes about *Hamzah*

With those letters whose names end with Hamza, the hiccup sound of (‘) is omitted in the recitation of the Holy Qur’an for easier pronunciation (and these only come in ‘الحروف المقطعة’ at the beginning of some chapters.).

“Ha meem” : «حم»

(ء) does not have different forms but does not appear on its own in the beginning or the middle of the word. It must be carried by either (ا و ى) in the middle and by (ا) in the beginning (such as اللهُ).

Hamza may appear on its own at the end of the word; such as in the following words: ماء سوء

Hamza may be carried by the letter (ا); such as in the following words:

رأس سأل

Hamza may be carried by the letter (و); such as in the following words:

يؤخذ مؤمن

✚ When the letter (ا) follows the letter (ل) there are two ways of writing them, either as (لا) or as (لا).