

A decorative L-shaped line in a brownish-gold color, consisting of a vertical line on the left and a horizontal line on the top, framing the top-left corner of the page.

# Tafkheem and Tarqeeq

Heavy and Light letters

A decorative L-shaped line in a brownish-gold color, consisting of a vertical line on the right and a horizontal line on the bottom, framing the bottom-right corner of the page.

# Outline

Definition of Tafkheem and Tarqeeq

Letters that are always heavy

Letters that are always light

Rules of Alif Maddiyyah

Rules of Laam

Rules of Ra

Rules of Ghunna

# Definition of Tafkheem

**Linguistic Definition:** To Fatten

**Applied Definition in Tajweed:** Technically, it is the thickness/fullness which fills the mouth with the pronunciation of certain letters.

# Definition of Tarqeeq

**Linguistic Definition:** Tarqīq literally means to make something thin.

**Applied Definition in Tajweed:** Technically, it is the thinness (flatness) found in the mouth while pronouncing some letters.

# Heavy Letters

خص ضغط قظ

Those that are sometimes heavy and sometimes light: Laam, Ra, Alif Maddiyah, and the sound of ghunna.

# Degrees of Tafkheem

Cairo:

1. First Degree: A heavy letter with a fatha and an alif following the fatha.
2. Second Degree: A heavy letter with a fatha.
3. Third Degree: A heavy letter with a dhamma.
4. Fourth Degree: A heavy letter with a kasra.
5. Fifth Degree: A heavy letter with a sukoon.

Damascus:

1. First Degree: Fatha with an alif
2. Second Degree: Fatha only
3. Third Degree: Dhamma only
4. Fourth Degree: Sukoon, the sound is not dependent on the vowel coming before it.
5. Fifth degree: Kasra

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## The Ruling of Alif Maddiyyah

The alif takes the ruling of the letter that it is attached to in terms of lightness and heaviness.

# The Ruling of Laam

Laam: Two conditions must be fulfilled to make laam heavy.

- a. The laam occurs in Lafdh ul Jalalah
- b. Has to have a dhamma or fatha before it. The dhamma or fathas can be permanent or due to the avoidance of the joining of two sukoons.



# The Ruling of Ra

## Heavy

1. If it carries a fatha.
2. If it carries a dhamma.
3. If the ra has a permanent sukoon and it is preceded by a fatha or a dhamma in the same word.
4. If the ra has a permanent sukoon, and it preceded by a permanent kasra in the same word, BUT is followed by a heavy letter, it will be heavy.
5. If the ra has a permanent sukoon, but the kasra is in the previous word, the ra will also be heavy.
6. If the ra has a permanent sukoon, but it preceded by a temporary kasra, it will also be heavy.
7. If the ra has a temporary sukoon, but is preceded by a fatha or a dhamma, or an alif, or wow madiyyah it will be heavy.
8. If the ra has a temporary sukoon and is preceded by another letter with sukoon, we will look at the letter before that. If that letter has a fatha or dhamma, the ra will be heavy.

# The Ruling of Ra

## Light

1. Ra has a kasra.
2. The ra carries a permanent sukoon, and is preceded by a kasra in the same word, AND no heavy letter follows it.
3. The ra carries a temporary sukoon, and is preceded by a kasra in the same word.
4. The ra carries a temporary sukoon, and is preceded by a ya sakinah.
5. If the ra has a temporary sukoon and is preceded by another letter with sukoon, we will look at the letter before that. If that letter has a kasra, the ra will be light.
6. The ra carries a permanent sukoon, and is preceded by a kasra in the same word, AND a heavy letter follows it in the next word.

# Words that have options on Ra

1. مَصْرَ

If you continue, then it's always heavy.

If you stop, then you are have two options, light and heavy (preferred).

Reason: Although the ra sakinah is preceded by a kasra, there is a heavy letter before the ra.

Appears in Surah Yusuf verses 21 and 99, Surah Az Zukhraf verse 51, Surah Younus ayah 87,

2. وَنَذِرْ

If you continue, it's light.

If you stop, it can be light (preferred) or heavy, because there is a ya that has been deleted here. This word was originally نَذِرِي.

Appears in Surah Al Qamar, verses 16, 18, 21, 30, 37, and 39

# Words that have options on Ra

3. الفطر

When continuing, always light.

If you stop, it can be light or heavy (no preference).

4. يسر أن أسر فأسر

When continuing, it's always light.

When stopping, heavy or light (preferred). There is a ya that has been deleted here.

The first one appears in Surah Al Fajr ayah 4.

# Words that have options on Ra

5. كلّ فرق

While continuing, you can also read the Ra as light or heavy. Also, when stopping it can read as light or heavy.

Appears in Surah Ash Shu'ara, ayah 63

# The Ruling of Ghunna

