



# Talimi Board KZN

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## Question

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Question:

Respected Moulana

I need some clarification on one issue.

This week one Apa came to our school and explained to us the following;

Regarding the pronunciation of the Fatha, she says that it is read with an "aah" sound not with an "er" sound. The "er" sound is widely taught in all the maktabas and this is how we all had learnt in Madrasah under the late Hadhrat Moulana Yunus Patel Saahib (rahmatullahi alayh). She says that if one listens to Sheikh Husry one will find that he recites the Fatha with an "aah" sound. This has caused great confusion as we have been teaching like this for years and now this Apa is saying that we are teaching incorrectly.

Please advise JazakAllah.

Answer:

Muhtaramah

At the onset, it should be noted that tajweed and qiraat is a science based on sound transmission from the ustaaz to his student and so forth. Understanding it entirely from books and writings is impossible and unconceivable. Nonetheless, the question posed regarding the proper pronunciation of a fathah refers:

As with the case of huroof and sifaat, the harakaat also have definitions and limitations. When it comes to 'fathah', the simple definition given is *infitaahul fami* (opening of the mouth). However, there has to be a limit as to how much the mouth should be opened. Hence, Allamah Abu 'Amr Ad-Daani (rahimahullah) (d.444 A.H.) states in his kitaab—Al-Fathu wal-Imaalah that there are two types of fathah. The first is shadeed and the other is mutawassit. Shadeed is to open the mouth extremely wide. The qurraa do not practise on this and it is considered a defect in qiraa'ah. Mutawassit is between shadeed and imaalah mutawassitah (sughra/ taqleel). Allamah Sakhaawi (rahimahullah) (d. 643 A.H.) has given a similar explanation in Fath-ul-Waseed fi Sharh-il-Qaseed.

Further, the reference given to the recitation of Shaikh Khaleel Husry does not seem to be correct. We have heard his recitation from different places and the fathah does not sound as "aah".

The fatha will be pronounced with an 'er' sound not an 'aah' sound.

And Allah knows best

Answered by Qari Yusuf Mullah, Ustaaz of Qiraat and Tajweed Madrasah Taaleemuddeen

Approved by Hadhrat Qari Dawood Randera Saahib, Head Ustaaz of Qiraat and Tajweed at Madrasah Taaleemuddeen