

*In the Name of Allah,
the Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful*

Lesson 18: Laam Sakinah

Laam sakinah translates to “a silent ل (laam).” There are three different ways *laam sakinah* can manifest in the Qur’an.

Izhar

Generally, *laam sakinah* is *izhar*, meaning that it will be pronounced clearly. Read the examples below, making sure to clearly pronounce the *laam sakinah*.

فَلْيَدْعُ نَادِيَهُ،

فَلْيَعْبُدُوا رَبَّ هَذَا الْبَيْتِ

كَالْفَرَاشِ الْمَبْثُوثِ

إِذَا زُلْزِلَتِ الْأَرْضُ زِلْزَالَهَا

فَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ

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إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ
قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ النَّاسِ

Idgham

The only exception to *laam sakinah* are words that end with ل and are followed by a word that begin with ل or ر. Two common instances in the Qur'an are when you see the words بل and هل followed by either ل or ر. When you see this, you'll notice two things:

1. The ل in the first word won't have a *sukoon* marking
2. The word after that begins with ل or ر will have a *shaddah*

In these cases, we will apply the rule of *idgham* by skipping the *laam* and reading the *shaddah*. Let's look at some examples.

هَلْ لَكُمْ مِّنْ مَا مَلَكَتْ
بَلْ لَّمَّا يَذُوقُوا عَذَابِ
قَالَ بَلْ رَبُّكُمْ

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فَقُلْ هَلْ لَّكَ إِلَىٰ أَنْ تَزَكَّىٰ
يَقُولُوا هَلْ لَّنَا
بَلْ رَفَعَهُ اللَّهُ إِلَيْهِ^ج
بَلْ لَّمْ نَكُنْ نَدْعُوا
قَالَ بَلْ لَبِثْتَ
وَقُلْ رَبِّ زِدْنِي عِلْمًا

There is one exception to this rule. It is found in Surah al-Mutaffifin, verse 14.

كَلَّا^س بَلْ^س رَانَ عَلَىٰ قُلُوبِهِمْ