

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Ilṭiqā' of Sākinayn (الِتِقَاءُ السَّاكِنَيْنِ)

- Ilṭiqā' means meeting and sākin means an unvowelled letter or a letter that has sukūn.
- So it means: Meeting of two unvowelled letters.
- Essentially, ilṭiqā' of sākinayn is when two letters that have a sukūn meet.
- When this happens, we pronounce the first sākin letter with a kasrah.
- Ilṭiqā' of sākinayn usually happens when the first word ends with tanween and as you remember tanween is actually a word that ends with a nūn that bears a sukūn.

Example:

نُوحُ الْمُرْسَلِينَ

Which is pronounced as:

نُوْحِنِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ

- Another thing we need to know about the meeting of two letters that have sukūn is that there is always an alif of waṣl in between, which naturally is not pronounced.

❖ Examples

- ◆ لَهْوِنِ أَنْفُصُوا>----->لَهُوْأ أَنْفُصُوا
- ◆ أَحَدِنِ اللَّهِ>----->أَحَدُ اللَّهِ
- ◆ مِضْبَاحِنِ الْمِضْبَاحِ>----->مِضْبَاحُ الْمِضْبَاحِ
- ◆ إِفْكِنِ أَفْتَرَاهِ>----->إِفْكُ أَفْتَرَاهِ
- ◆ خَيْرِنِ أَهْبِطُوا>----->خَيْرُ أَهْبِطُوا
- ◆ سَوَاءِنِ الْعَاكِفُ>----->سَوَاءُ الْعَاكِفُ

However there are some instances where there is no tanween yet ilṭiqā' of sākinayn takes place. Such as verse 11 of chapter al-Hujurat:

بِئْسَ الْيَسْمُ الْفُسُوقِ>----->بِئْسَ الْأَسْمُ الْفُسُوقِ

The reason kasrah is chosen among all the vowels in order to link the two sākin letters is that in Arabic, kasrah is known to be the lightest and most convenient vowel to pronounce.

