MANNERS OF RECITING THE Qur'aan
Dear Children,

All Praise is for Allah, Lord of the worlds, prayers and peace be upon Muhammad صلی الله عليه و سلم his family, his Companions and all those who follow in his صلی الله عليه و سلم footsteps until the Last Day.

The Qur’aan is Allah’s words, which He sent down to our Prophet Muhammad صلی الله عليه و سلم. So it is important that we recite the Qur’aan often, as reciting the Qur’aan helps us get many rewards. It is also important that we understand it and act upon it.

In this book we have given some of the manners of reciting the Qur’aan.

So let us ask Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَ تَعَالَى to help us recite as much of the Qur’aan as we can and by this earn His سُبْحَانَهُ وَ تَعَالَى reward.

Umm Ilhaam
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Manners of Reciting the Qur’aan
Reciting the Qur’aan is an act of worship.

We recite the Qur’aan to please Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى and to earn His reward.

The rewards for reciting the Qur’aan are very great.

So it is important that we do it correctly.
Like all acts of worship there are two conditions for it to be accepted.

The first condition is that we do it truly and sincerely for Allah alone.

And the second is that we do it in the way our Prophet صلّى الله عليه و سلم has told us.

If we do not follow these two conditions, our deed will not be accepted.
When we recite the Qur’aan, we should not do it to attract attention, and to expect praise from people.

We should do it only to please Allah سُبِحَانَاهُ وَتَعَلَّی.
It is important that we understand what we recite.

Those of us who do not understand the Arabic language should try our best to learn it.

Or else we must read the translation of the meaning of the Qur’aan.

In this way we will understand what Allah says in the Qur’aan and do what Allah has asked us to.
The Qur’aan has been sent to us as guidance.

In the Qur’aan Allah tells us how we should live in this world.

What we are allowed to do (halal) and what we should not do (haraam).

So when we know what Allah has commanded us in the Qur’aan, we can practice that in our lives and by that be obedient to Allah.
When we recite the Qur’aan it is better to be with ablution, but it is not wrong to recite it without ablution.

In this hadith related by Abdullah ibn Abbas,

"In the middle of the night or just before or just after – the Messenger of Allah woke up, sat up and wiped the sleep from his face with his hand. He then recited the last ten verses of Soorah ali Imran, after which he stood up and went to a canteen that was suspended. He then made ablution, performing it well.”
It is good to clean the mouth before reciting the Qur’aan.

“When the Prophet صلی الله عليه و سلم would wake up at night for Tahajjud (late night prayer), he would rub and clean his mouth with as-Siwaak.” Sahih al Bukhari
He would then say the Isti’aadahah that is,

أَعُوذُ بِاللهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

Aoothu billahi minash shaitaan nir rajeem

I seek refuge in Allah from the accursed Shaitaan

and then say

بِسْمِ اللّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Bismillahir Rahmanir Raheem

In the name of Allah the Most Beneficient,
the Most Merciful
Then he would begin reciting the Qur’aan.

Allah says in Surah an Nahl verse 98,

“So when you want to recite the Qur’aan seek refuge with Allah from Shaitaan, the outcast (the cursed one).”
We can also say,

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ السَّمِيعِ الْعَلِيمِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ مِنْ هَمْزِهِ وَنَفْحَهِ وَنَفْثِهِ

Aoorthu billahi samiyil aleem minash shaitaan nir raajem min hamzih wana nafkhihi wa naftihi

"I seek refuge in Allah, the All-Hearing and the All-Knowing, from the accursed Shaitaan – from his pride, his poetry and his madness."

It is important to say the Istihaadhah because it keeps Shaitaan far away.

*Sunan Abu Dawud
When we recite the Qur’aan we must give our full attention to what is being recited.

We should recite clearly and slowly and with a pleasant tone.

Each letter and word should be pronounced clearly.

The Qur’aan should not be recited quickly and carelessly.
If we are reciting the Qur’aan quickly we should take care that the letters are pronounced correctly and clearly.

We should recite the Qur’aan in a beautiful voice, but it should not sound as if were singing it.

"Adorn your voices with the Qur’aan."

*Sunan Abu Dawud*
The Qur’aan can be recited aloud or softly.

It is good to recite aloud because then we can hear what is being recited and the mind is also active.

But, if we are afraid that when we recite the Qur’aan aloud it may be showing off, or that it may disturb another person who is also reciting, then it is better to recite softly.

Women should not recite the Qur’aan aloud in the presence of men.
When we recite the Qur'aan, we should move our tongues and lips.

Only then will we receive the reward for reciting the Qur'aan.

If he reads the Qur'aan only with his eyes and does not move his lips he will not get the reward of reciting.
The Prophet صلی الله عليه و سلم said, "Recite the Qur’aan, for on the Day of Resurrection, the Qur’aan will come as an intercession for its people."

He صلی الله عليه و سلم also said,

"Whoever reads one harf (letter) of the Qur’aan shall receive a good deed and ten good deeds similar to it. I do not say that Alif Laam Meem is a harf, but Alif is a harf, Laam is a harf and Meem is a harf." **

*Sahih Muslim **at Tirmidhee
There is no specific time limit to finish reciting the Qur’aan.

Some of the Sahabahs during the time of the Prophet صلّى الله عليه و سلم used to finish reciting in two months. Some in one month, others in ten days and some of them in seven days.*

Most of them used to finish in seven days. But there were some who would finish even in three days.**

*Sahih al Bukhari
**Abu Dawud
If we feel sleepy or drowsy we should not recite the Qur’aan.

Aaisha رضي الله عنها related that the Messenger of Allah صلی الله علیه و سلَّم said,

“If anyone of you becomes sleepy during prayer, then let him sleep (or rest) until his sleepiness goes away, because if one of you prays while he is sleepy, he might try to ask for forgiveness but curse himself instead.”

Sahih Muslim
When reciting the Qur’aan it is better to continue until we finish the recitation.

We should not stop unnecessarily for a worldly matter. *

*Sahih al Bukhari
There are 15 verses in which we have to prostrate (go down on sujood).

Prostrating at these is not fard (compulsory), but it is sunnah to do so.

We should say,

سَجَدَ وَجِهِي لِلَّذِي خَلَقَهُ وَشَقَّ
سَمَعَهُ وَبَصَرَهُ بِحُوَلِهِ وَقُوَّتِهِ
فَتَبَارَكَ الَّذِي أَحْسَنُ الْخَالِقِينَ

Sajada wajhiya lilladhi khalaqahu wa shaqqa samahu wa basarahu bihawlihi wa quwwathihi. (Fa thabarakallahu ahsanul khaaliqueen)

My face fell prostrate before He who created it and brought forth its faculties of hearing and seeing by His might and power.

(So Blessed is Allah, the best of Creators).
While reciting the Qur’aan, when we come to verses where Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَلَّى is glorified, we should say subhanallah and glorify Allah.

When we come to verses where Allah’s punishment is mentioned we should seek refuge in Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَلَّى from His punishment.
And when we come to verses where Allah’s Mercy and Forgiveness are mentioned we should ask Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَلَّى to forgive us for our sins and to have mercy on us.
There is no authentic evidence reported about saying - Sadaqallahul Adheem - or any special dua or supplication to be said when we finish reciting the Qur’aan.

Kissing the Qur’aan and placing it between the eyes is disliked.

And we know if we do any act of worship which was not done by the Prophet صلی الله عليه و سلم, that it will not be accepted.*

*Sahih al Bukhari
So we ask Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى to help us to constantly recite the Qur’aan and to help us learn and understand it, so that we will benefit from it.
A Word to Parents

We as parents are responsible for our children and we should not consider our children too young, to start teaching them the etiquette of Islam.

The Learn About series of books are colour coded, and broadly divided into three levels. Primarily for easy selection and identification. However, all books contain information on morals, manners etc. in Islam, that maybe useful not only for older children, but for adults too.

- **Level One** - These books are primarily designed for very young children. The books may have to be read to them, and explained. It is an initial introduction to Islam.

- **Level Two** - These books are for children who need to be taught more about the basics of Islam and may have started to read already.

- **Level Three** - These books are recommended for older children who already have the basic understanding of Islam.

Please note: It is recommended to read to children and teach them, irrespective of the level of the books. They retain information, and form perceptions from a very early age. They need to be instructed and taught Islam in their formative years.