
Makharij ul Huroof

— Chapter 3 of Al-Muneer fi Ahkam —
At-Tajweed

Chapter Outline

Definition of Makhraj

The Five General regions

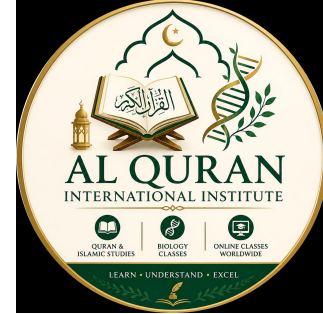
Al-Jauf

Al-Halq

Al-Lisan

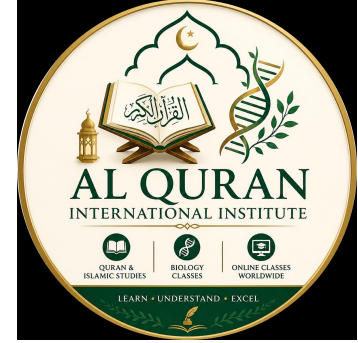
Ash-Shafatan

Al-Khaishoom



What does the word *Makhraj* mean?

Definition



Makhaarij is the plural of makhraj.

Definition: It is the place of emitting the letter when pronouncing it that differentiates that specific letter from other letters.



The Five General Regions

Al-Jauf - The Oral Cavity - **One** point of articulation

Al-Halq - Throat - **Three** points of articulation

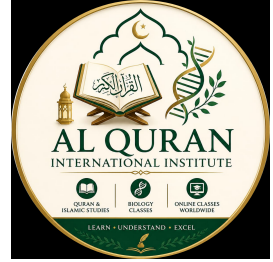
Al-Lisan - Tongue - **Ten** points of articulation

Ash-Shafataan - Lips - **Two** points of articulation

Al-Khaishoom - Nasal Cavity - **One** point of articulation

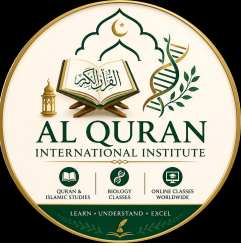
There are a total of 17 points of articulation according to a majority of the scholars including Ibn Al Jazari.

Scholars differ



Imam Ash-Shatibi and Sibaway said there are 16 points of articulation, and did not count the Jauf as a point of articulation.

Still other scholars of Arabic language said there are 14 points of articulation, as they did not count the Jauf, and were of the opinion that ر ن ل share the same makhraj.



The Oral Cavity الجوف

There are three sounds that originate from this articulation point. They do not come from any specific point in this region, but rather are generally from this area.

Alif Maddiyyah - The vocal cords are open. The back of the tongue is lowered for the light alif, and the back of the tongue is raised for the heavy alif.

Wow Maddiyyah - The vocal cords are open, and the lips are rounded in the same shape as if we were saying the letter wow.

Ya Maddiyyah - The vocal cords are open, and the middle of the tongue is raised close to the makhraj of the letter ya.



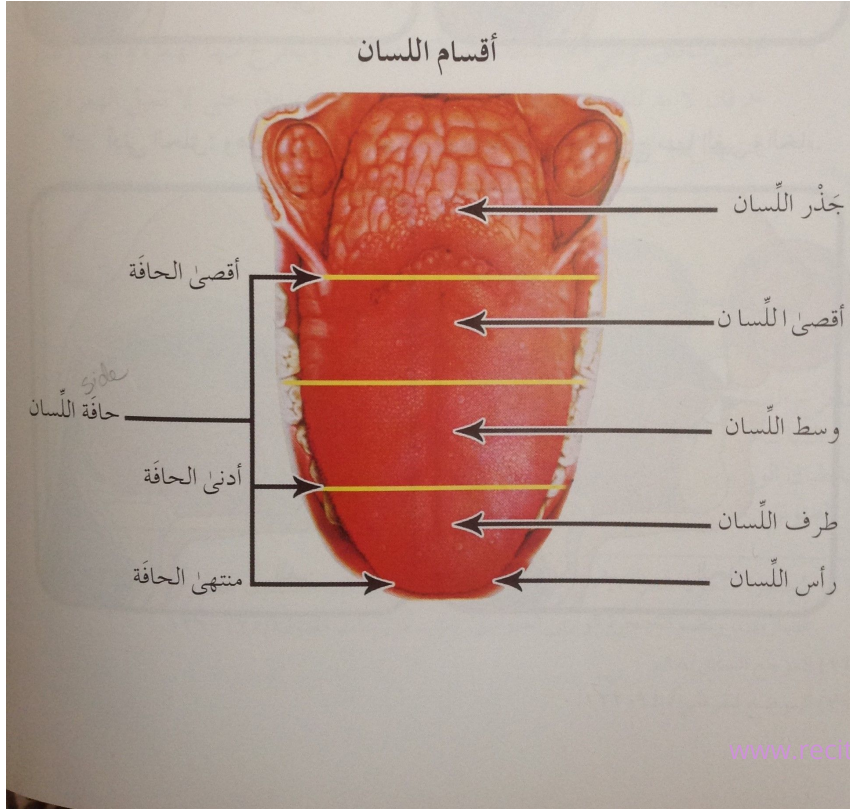
الحلق Al Halq

أقصى الحلق - The Deepest part of the throat, this is farthest from the mouth, and the closest to the chest. Two letters originate from this part of the throat: ء ه

وسط الحلق - The middle of the throat - ح ع

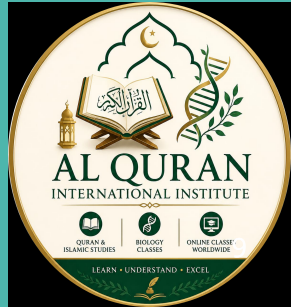
أدنى الحلق - This part of the throat is closest to the mouth. - غ خ

اللسان Al-Lisan

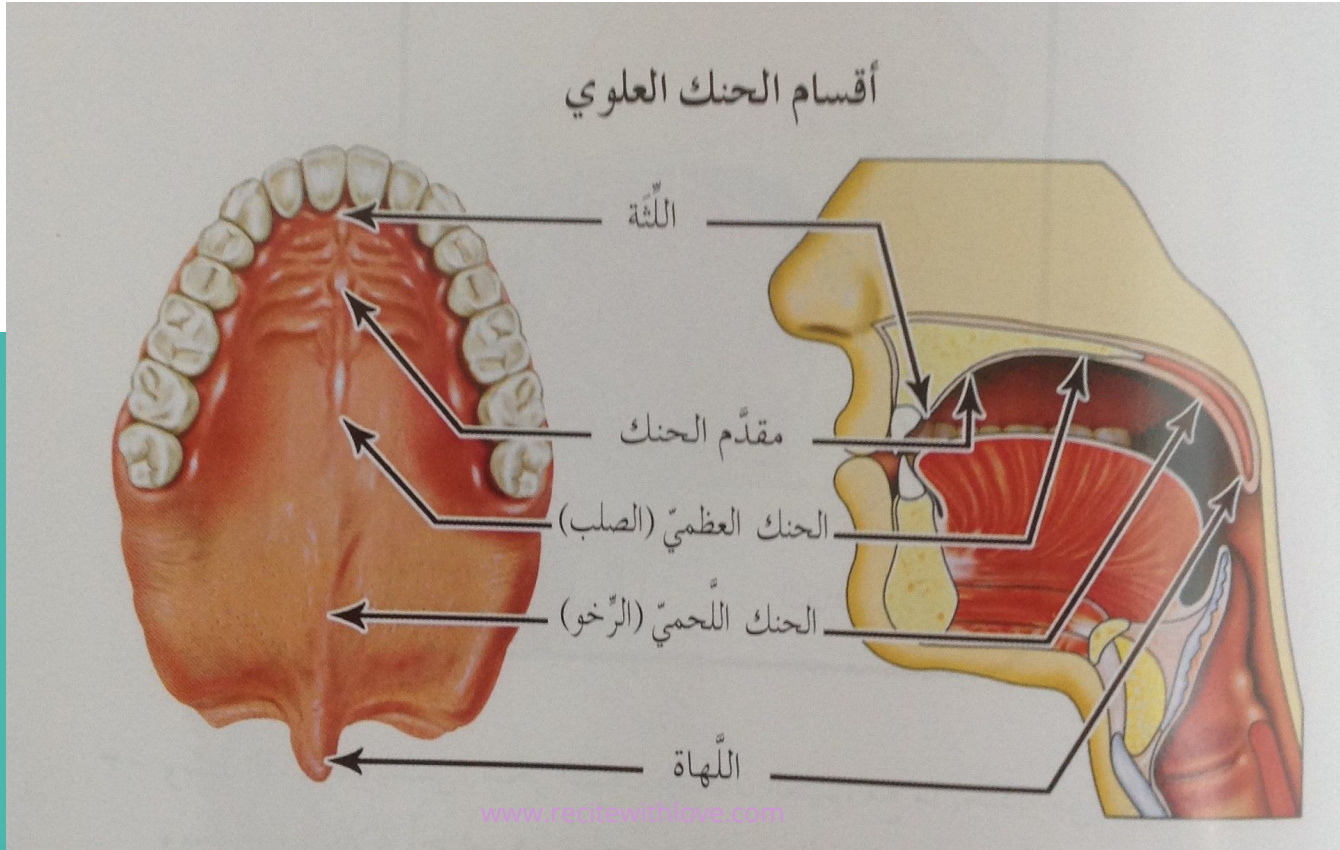


The letters that originate from the tongue can be split into two categories:

- 1) Letters that do not originate from the front part of the tongue.
- 2) Letters that originate from طرف اللسان



The Palate





The Furthest part of the Tongue أقصى اللسان

Two letters originate from this point:

ق: The back of the tongue rises to touch the soft palate above it.

ك: The same as the **ق** except that it is a little “under” the **ق**, and closer to the mouth.



The Middle of the Tongue **وسط اللسان**

Three letters originate from this makhraj. They are called Al-Huroof Ash-Shajariyyah.

ج ي ش

Note on **ي**: This is the makhraj for the sound of **ي** when it has a harakah on it, or when it is saakin and preceded by a fatha.

The Makhraj of these three letters is the middle of the tongue touching the hard palate above it.

The Teeth

Green- Central Incisors

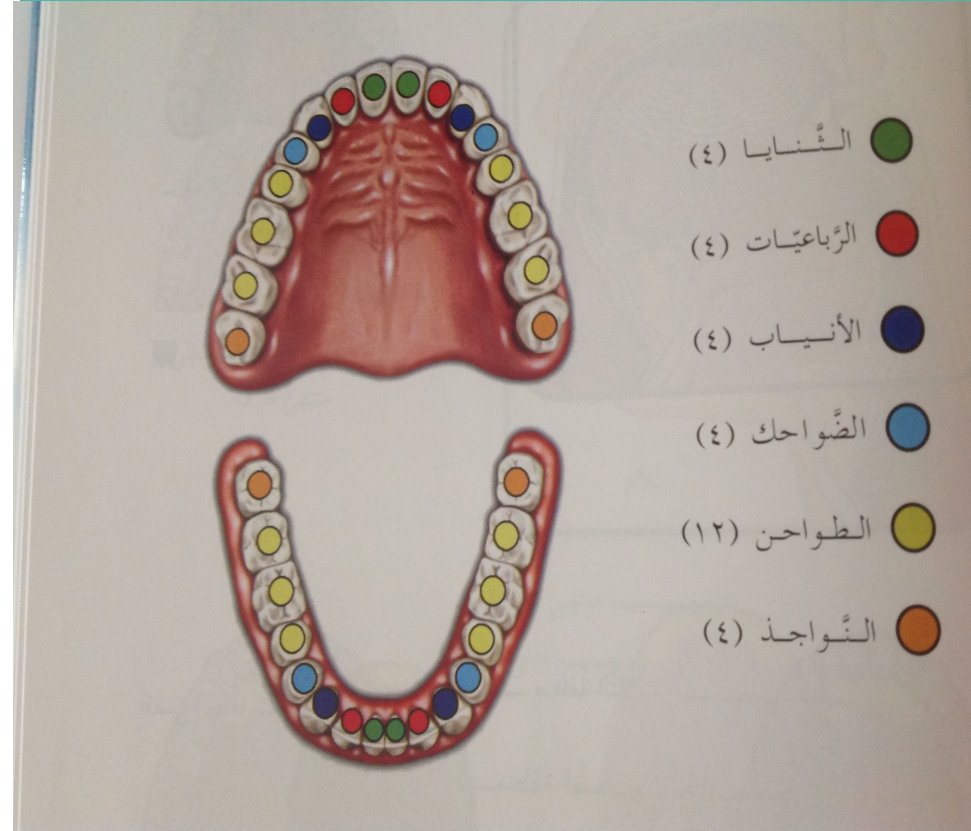
Red - Lateral Incisors

Dark Blue - Canine

Light Blue - Pre molars

Yellow - Second pre molar and
two molars

Orange - Wisdom teeth



The Side of the Tongue

حافة اللسان

ض

“It is articulated from one of the sides of the tongue and what lies opposite to it of the upper molars left or right.” It can also be articulated from both sides of the tongue.

The Side of the Tongue

حافة اللسان

ل

It's articulation point is the side of the tongue nearest the front of the mouth and the tip of the tongue, and what lies opposite to it of the gums of the first two upper premolars, the two upper canines, the two upper lateral incisors, and the two upper front incisors.

The Tip of the Tongue

طرف اللسان

ن

From the tip of the tongue and what is parallel to it of the gums.

It is slightly below the makhraj of laam

It's nasal sound originates from the Nasal Cavity.

The Tip of the Tongue

طرف اللسان



From the tip of the tongue and a little from
the edge of the tip

And what is parallel to it of the gums of the
upper front teeth.

The tongue is raised from the back for a
heavy ر

The Tip of the Tongue

طرف اللسان

ط د ت

From the tip of the tongue

And what is parallel to it of the roots of the
upper central incisors.

The tongue is raised from the back for the ط

The Tip of the Tongue

طرف اللسان

ص س ز

From the tip of the tongue

And what is above the lower incisors, the
plate of the teeth.

There is a small space between the tip of
the tongue and the plate of the lower
incisors.

The tongue is raised from the back for the

ص

The Tip of the Tongue

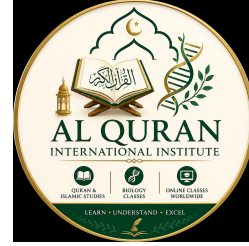
طرف اللسان

ظ ذ ت

From the tip of the tongue and
what is parallel to it of the edge of the
upper central incisors.

The tongue is raised from the back for the ظ

The Lips



This is a general region, which has two specific points of articulation.

The Lips

ف

The inside of the lower lip with the edge of the upper central incisors.

The Lips

و

The lips are rounded into the shape of a dhamma.

Note: This is the makhraj for و when it has a vowel, or is sakin but preceded by a fatha.

The Lips

ب م

These two letters are formed by closing the lips.

Some scholars state that the ب is from the wet part of the lips and the م is from the dry part of the lips.

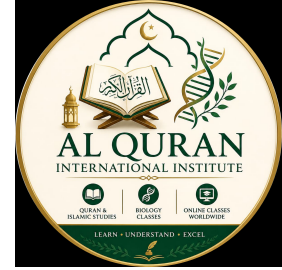
The Nasal Cavity الخيشوم



This is the articulation point for ghunna (nasal sound).

Ghunna is a permanent quality of two letters (ن م), and does not have an opposite quality.

We also use the sound of ghunna in the noon sakinah and tanween rules and meem sakinah rules.



Review Questions

1. How many regions are there?
2. What is the region with the most points of articulation?
3. Which regions have only one point of articulation, but no letters originate from them?
4. Which region has only two points of articulation?
5. What is the difference of opinion among scholars about the number of points of articulation?