

Correct Spelling of City in K.S.A.

Question

Assalaamu 'alaykum,

What is the correct spelling and pronunciation of the word Jeddah (the city in KSA)?

What should be the vowel on *Jiim*?

Answer

Our Shaykh Dr. V. Abdur Rahim حَفِظَهُ اللهُ replied (quote):

وعليكم السلام

All the authorities on Arabic mention that the *jiim* in this word has *Dammah*,

i.e. **J**uddah

جُدَّةٌ.

But people mostly say

جَدَّةٌ

Jaddah, or

جِدَّةٌ

Jiddah.

There was a debate in the press long ago (about forty years ago) on this point. Some maintained that it is only Juddah, and others said that the *jiim* may have one of the three vowels.

But as I said earlier, Arabic dictionaries mention only
جُدَّة.

Note that in some editions of the Madinah Book (for example: Book 1, Lesson 22) this name appears with a *kasrah*. It is a typographical error.

In other editions it is correctly typed with *Dammah*.

(end reply)