

القرآن الكريم

الرسم العثماني

Question

Dear respected Shaykh, why is it:

﴿بَسَطَتْ﴾ in the Indo-Pak script (i.e. *shaddah* on *tā'*) and:

﴿بَسَطَتْ﴾ in the Uthmāniyy script of the Glorious Qur'ān (no *shaddah* on *tā'*)?

Are they both correct?

Faḍīlat al-Shaykh Dr. V. Abdur Rahim (حفظه الله) replies:



Dear Br Abdullah Abdur-Raheem

وعليكم السلام

At the outset, I would like to correct some of your ideas expressed in your question.

1. There is no such thing as Uthmānic script.

It is Uthmānic Orthography, i.e., spelling system.

The Committee which recorded and wrote the *muṣḥaf* (copy of the Qurʾān) under the direction of ʿUthmān رضي الله عنه omitted weak letters in some words like العلمين (for العالمين) which a man knowing the language can easily recognize.

This is one of the points in which the Uthmānic Orthography differs from Modern Arabic Orthography.

2. The addition of short vowel marks like *fāṭḥah*, *ḍammah*, *kasrah*, etc. (known as ضَبَط) took place later on.

So these vowel marks are not part of the Uthmānic Orthography.

3. The Indo-Pak *Muṣḥaf* is also written according to Uthmānic Orthography, but the system of ضَبَط is different.

4. The word:

بَسَطَ (Qurʾān 5:28) has two different *dabṭs*.

a) In the Indo-Pak *Muṣḥaf*s, it is written with *sukūn* on the ط, and *shaddah* on the ت:

﴿بَسَطَتْ﴾:

﴿لَنْ بَسَطَ إِلَيَّ يَدَكَ لِتَقْتُلَنِي مَا ...﴾

b) But, according to the other system, the ط has no *sukūn*, nor has the ت *shaddah*:

﴿بَسَطَتْ﴾:

﴿لَنْ بَسَطَ إِلَيَّ يَدَكَ لِتَقْتُلَنِي مَا ...﴾

According to both the systems, its pronunciation is the same.

The letter ط is assimilated to ت to the extent that it loses its *qalqalah*, but it retains its quality of being a *muṭbaq* letter.

Hope this is clear.

والسلام

abdur rahim