

اللغة العربية

«أَ» + «أَلْ»



Question

What happens when the interrogative particle أَ is followed by
هَمْزَةُ الْوَصْلِ?

Are they merged together to form آ , or is one of them replaced by آ
and the other dropped?

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



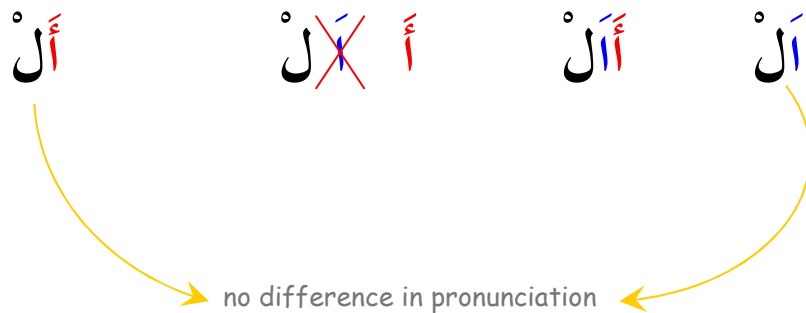
Dear Brother / Sister

السلام عليكم

As a rule, the *hamzah* of **أَلْ** is omitted in pronunciation when it is preceded by another word, e.g.:

أَلْيَوْمَ / وَالْيَوْمَ

So, when the *هَمْزَةُ الْاِسْتِفْهَامِ* precedes **أَلْ**, naturally the *hamzah* of **أَلْ** is omitted, and the result is exactly what it was prior to the omission: there is no difference between the non-interrogative and the interrogative forms:



There is no difference in pronunciation between the *هَمْزَةُ الْوَصْلِ* and the *هَمْزَةُ الْقَطْعِ*. The difference is only in the omission of the former, and the non-omission of the latter when preceded by a word.

In order to overcome this problem in the listener, the *fathah* of the همزة الاستفهام is lengthened, and it becomes آل ('āl):

أَلْيَوْمَ؟ = أَلْيَوْمَ؟

E.g.:

أَلْيَوْمَ وَصَلْتَ. * أَلْيَوْمَ وَصَلْتَ؟



Is it today that you arrived?

I hope this has helped you.

والسلام,

abdur rahim