

Lesson 2

ܩܘܡܘܨܐ

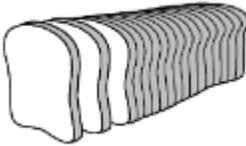
ܩܘܡܘܨܐ

ܩܘܡܘܨܐ

ܩܘܡܘܨܐ

ܩܘܡܘܨܐ

What are these dots which you find above and below the letters? They represent vowels. There are two systems of vowels in Syriac namely the Dot System or East Syriac vowel system and the Greek System or the West Syriac vowel system. The vowels are placed above or below the letters. Look at the dots given for the letters below.



ܩܘܡܘܨܐ

ܩܘܡܘܨܐ



ܩܘܡܘܨܐ

ܩܘܡܘܨܐ



East Syriac Vowel Signs

· ⲁ	a (short)	അ	· ⲁ
· ⲁ̄	ā (long)	ആ	· ⲁ̄
· ⲉ	e (short)	എ	· ⲉ
· ⲉ̄	ē (long)	ഏ	· ⲉ̄
· ⲓ	i, ee	ഇ, ഇയ	· ⲓ
· ⲓ̄	u, oo	ഉ, ഉയ	· ⲓ̄
· ⲟ	o, ō	ഒ, ഓ	· ⲟ

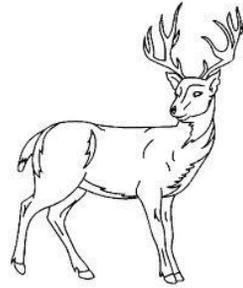
West Syriac Vowel Signs

ⲁ	a	അ, ആ	ⲁ
ⲉ	e	എ, ഏ	ⲉ
ⲟ	o	ഒ, ഓ	ⲟ
ⲓ	i	ഇ, ഇയ	ⲓ
ⲓ̄	u	ഉ, ഉയ	ⲓ̄

Note the following words:



ܢܗܘܢܐ



ܢܝܠܐ

There are diphthongs or combination of vowels and letters in Syriac. In East Syriac
 ܐܘ̇ has both short and long pronunciation.

ܐܘ̇

au / āu ܐܘܐ, ܐܘܐܘܪܘܫܝܡܐ

ܦܘܠܟܗܘܡܐ / ܦܘܠܟܗܘܡܐ

ܐܝ̇

ai ܐܝܗܘܐ

ܦܝܠܟܗܘܡܐ

Read the following words:



ܦܘܠܟܗܘܡܐ

ܦܘܠܟܗܘܡܐ



ܦܘܠܟܗܘܡܐ

ܦܘܠܟܗܘܡܐ





بَصْرَةٌ

بَعْدًا



If any one of the letters **جهد** is prefixed to a word which begins with a vowelled **ا** the vowel sound goes to the prefix. eg:- **جَاهِدُ**



Vowel less final **ا** is silent.



The following three words are written without vowels.

مهلك (methol) **كول** (kol) **مين** (min)

Read the following words



يَضُّ

يَضُّ



Here the second letter doubles in the pronunciation.

Doubling is the mode of pronouncing a single consonant as if it were two. When a vowelled letter is preceded by another with a short vowel it is doubled.

eg. **يَضُّ** , **يَضُّ**

Read the following words



جَسَئ

جَسَئ



Here س has two different pronunciation.

The six letters س د ذ ر ك ت have two different articulations: the hard called **Kusaya** indicated by a dot placed above the letters, and the soft, called **Rukakha** indicated by a dot below. eg. كَسَئ , رَسَئ

Note: A small line given below or above a letter shows that, the particular letter is not pronounced. e.g. كَسَئ

Read the following word

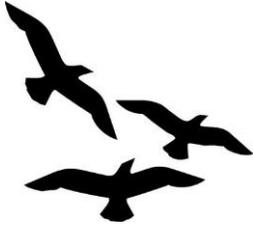
جَسَئ



Here د and س are pronounced as one consonant. This is called assimilation.

Assimilation is the mode of pronouncing two consonants as one. Assimilation takes place between the same letters. e.g. جَسَئ (ettabbar), between the letters of same organ, especially د س ر ك ت e.g. جَسَئ (hattha = new) and between the letters of similar articulation in the middle of a word; س و ه ر ك ت as, جَسَئ (hayussana = pitiful). Here the loss of the assimilated (1st) letter is compensated by the doubling of the following letter.

Note the following words



رِبْوِيّات

قَالُوا



What are the two horizontal dots placed above these words? They are called 'sayame'.

Sayame (Ribui) are two horizontal dots (◌◌) placed above the words to denote plural number: as in **رِبْوِيّات** = names, **قَالُوا** = they have said. As in the latter example, when the word contains the letter **ذ**, the dot over **ذ** usually is made to coalesce with one of the plural dots.



II. A. Apply all the vowels to the following letters. Follow the example.

تف تم تن
 ت ت ت ت ت ت
 ت ت ت ت ت ت
 ت ت ت ت ت ت

II. B. Find out letters with the vowels ◌◌ ◌◌ ◌◌ ◌◌ and ◌◌ from the following words.

رِبْوِيّات رِبْوِيّات رِبْوِيّات رِبْوِيّات رِبْوِيّات

II. C. See the pictures and find the missing vowels:



جملان

ساجدة



شجرة

سجدة



II. D. Write two words each which contain Kusaya and Rukakha.

II. E. Five pairs of words are given below. Only one in each pair is correct. Choose the correct word.

سجدة	سجدة
فجدة	فجدة