**‘aabid (pl. ‘ubbaad)**

عابد (عباد)

Worshipper, devotee

A person devoted to worshipping Allah.

**‘aabiq**

آبق

Runaway slave

A slave who runs away from his master for no legitimate reason.

**‘aad**

عاد

People of ‘Ad

A people of the Arabian Peninsula to whom Allah sent the Prophet “huud” (Hood). It is said that they lived in the Yemen area. (See, e.g.,

the Qur’an, 11: 50-60).

‘aadaab (sg. ‘adab)

آداب۔ أدب

Manners, rules of conduct

Good morals and manners are mentioned by the Prophet (PBUH) as criteria of superiority of a believer over others. A Muslim is supposed to observe the laws of Islam in every aspect of his life,

**‘aadam**

آدم

The first human being created by Allah. His mate was Eve. (See the Qur’an, 2: 30-38 for references to his creation, sin, repentance…)

**aadil‘**

عادل

just, fair

**(al—‘aakhir)**

الآخر

The Last

A Divine Attribute of Allah. The One after Whom no one and nothing exists, because He is the Only Everlasting Being.

**(al-‘aakhirah)**

الآخرة

The Hereafter

Belief in life in the Hereafter (in the physical and spiritual senses) is one of the six corner-stones of “’iimaan” (faith) in Islam.

**‘aakil ar-riba**

آكل الربا

Devourer of usury

Anyone who lends people money with interest / usury is guilty of devouring it, which means he purchases his food with money earned in that manner.

**‘aalam al-barzakh**

عالم البرزخ

Intermediate state

See **“barzakh”**.

**‘aal‘ imraan**

آل عمران

Family of Imran

In Chapter 3 of the Qur’an, this refers to the family of Maryam (Mary), the mother of ‘iisaa (Jesus) (PBUH).

**‘aal al-bayt**

آل البيت

family of the Prophet (PBUH) Literally, the members of the household. The term is used to refer to the wives of the Prophet (PBUH), his offspring and Muslim uncles and cousins, who were forbidden to accept “sadaqah”.

**‘aal muHammad**

آل محمد

family of Muhammad See ‘aal al-bayt.

**‘aalaa (yuulii)**

آلى يُولي

To decide or make ‘iilaa’

See ‘iilaa’ for the special sense of deciding to desert one’s wife in bed.

**‘aalam al-ghayb**

عالم الغىب

The unseen world

Literally, ‘the world of the unseen,’ including the future and the Hereafter, which is known only to Allah.

**‘aalam ash-shahaadah**

عالم الشهادة

The visible world

The present material world, as opposed to the Hereafter or the future, for example, which are not visible or known to us. The opposite of “‘aalam al-ghayb ” (the unseen world).

‘aalim (pl. ‘ulamaa‘)

عالم (علماء)

scholar

In Islamic texts, the term usually refers to a scholar specializing in religious fields of knowledge.

**‘aam al-bu‘uuth**

عام البعوث

Year of Deputations

The ninth year of the Hijrah is called the Year of Deputations, because deputations came from all over Arabia to the Prophet (PBUH) at Medina to declare their conversion to Islam and to learn about it.

**‘aam al-fiil**

عام الفيل

Year of the Elephant

The year 570 AD, when the Abyssinian viceroy in Yemen decided to invade Mecca and destroy the Ka‘bah with an army that had elephants, but they were all miraculously destroyed. (See the Qur’an, 105). It was in this year that the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was born.

**‘aamana (yu‘min)**

آمن ىؤمن

To believe

When the verb is used in an unqualified manner in the Qur’an it refers to believing in Allah.

**‘aamiin**

آمين

Amen

May God answer the prayer! The expression said at the end of the recitation of the Opening Chapter of the Qur’an, which ends with the prayer, “Guide us to the Straight Path, the Path of those who gained Your Favour, not those who deserved Your wrath, nor those who have gone astray.” (the Qur’an, 1: 6-7). It is often heard after hearing all types of supplication.

**‘aaqib (al-)**

العاقب

The Last

The reference is to Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) being the last Prophet and Messenger of Allah.

**‘aaqilah**

عاقلة

Blood money payers

Relatives, such as ancestors or descendants who are responsible

(with the murderer) for paying Aa

the blood money to the family of the murdered victim.

**‘aaqil 1**

عاقل

Wise

**‘aaqil 2**

عاقل

Sane

Legally, this means someone who is of sound mind; therefore, he is responsible for his actions.

**‘aariyyah**

عارية

Loaned object

Something borrowed from someone. Naturally, it should be returned intact as much as possible.

‘aamil (pl. ‘ummaal)

عامل (عمال)

Governor

In classical use, the governor appointed by the caliph to rule a certain area in his name.

‘aaS(in) (pl. ‘uSaah)

عاص (عصاة)

Sinner, rebellious

The term means ‘sinner’ if he is rebellious against Divine commands; otherwise, it means a persistently disobedient person.

**‘aashuuraa‘**

عاشوراء

Tenth of Muharram

The tenth day of the first month of Islamic calendar. It is sunnah to fast this day, with one day before or after it. On this day also al-Husayn (grandson of the Prophet {PBUH}) was martyred at Karbalaa’ in Iraq.

‘aataa (yu‘tii) az-zakaah

آتي يؤتي

give alms, pay the poor dues

Paying “az-zakaah” (poor dues) is one of the five pillars of Islam. It is paid on savings, commodities, live stock as well as agricultural produce.

‘aayah 1 (pl. ‘aayaat)

آية (آيات)1

Sign

In the Qur’an we are told that all types of creation are signs from Allah for man to ponder upon, hence reach the conclusion of His greatness.

‘aayah 2 (pl.‘aayaat)

آية (آيات)2

Verse

A verse from the Qur’an (part of a “suurah” (chapter).

‘aayah 3 (pl.‘aayaat)

آية 3(آيات)

Proof, evidence

**‘aayat al-kursiy**

آية الكرسي

Verse of the Throne

This refers to verse 256 of Chapter 2 of the Holy Qur’an. It consists of ten sentences about Allah, giving twenty of His Attributes and five of His Names. The Prophet (PBUH) strongly recommended reciting it after regular “Salaah” as well as before going to bed, as a source of protection for a Muslim from Satan and other evils.

**Aazar**

آزر

Terah

Prophet Abraham’s father. (See the Qur’an 6:74).

abaaHa (yubiiH)

أباح (يبيح)

To permit or make lawful

**Abad**

أبد

Forever

This is usually contrasted with “‘azal” (time immemorial). It refers to time that has no end.

‘abd 1 (pl. ‘abiid)

عبد 1 (عبيد)

male slave, bondsman

A slave was a man captured in a just war or the son of a bondswoman.

‘abd 2 (pl. ‘ibaad)

عبد 2(عباد)

Servant, worshipper

In the context of man’s relationship to Allah, the word is usually translated ‘servant’.

‘ablagha (yubligh)

أبلغ (يبلغ)

To convey

To convey a message.

‘abraar (sg. barr(un)

أبرار (بر)

righteous people

‘abTala (yubTil)

أبطل (يبطل)

To invalidate

To make something or some action invalid, such as laughing which makes “Salaah” (prayer) invalid.

**‘adaa‘ 1**

أداء

performance

Performing a religious rite, such as formal prayers and pilgrimage

to Mecca. Aa

**‘adaa‘ 2**

أداء2

Payment

Paying back a loan or debt.

**‘adaalah**

عدالة

Justice, integrity

In the science of hadeeth, the term means the integrity (of the narrator).

**adab (pl. aadaab)**

أدب آداب

Rule of behaviour / etiquette See “ ‘aadaab.”

addaa (yu‘addii)

أدّى (يؤدي)

to do

In the case of” Salaah” (formal prayer) this means ‘to perform’ while for “zakaah” it means paying it.