



بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

Summary of Quranic Sciences

Lesson 38: Recitations of the Quran (قراءات القرآن)

The most important factors of multiple readings:

1. Handwriting of the Quran
2. Lack of due attendance in memorizing the Quran
3. Different Arabic dialects

Opinions on the Seven Recitations:

1. All are valid.

There are some hadiths (mentioned in Sunni sources) that the Quran was revealed in seven words; for instance, the accounts of Zaid ibn Arqam and Hisham ibn Hakeem.

The Shia follow Ahl al-Bayt (a.s.) in reading the Quran.

The recitation used in the majority of Muslim countries is the recitation of 'Asim ibn Abi al-Nujud al-Asadi al-Kufi, narrated by Hafs ibn Sulayman.

There are many more than seven recitations of the Quran. Mujahid claimed the authenticity of these seven, among others.

1st Group of Hadiths: Descent of the Quran on Seven words:

Saduq from Muhammad bin Yahya al-Seyrifi, from Imam al-Sadiq (a.s.):

«ان القرآن نزل على سبعة احرف و ادنى ما للامام ان يفتى على سبعة وجوه»

The Quran was revealed in seven words, and the least that is expected from the Imam is to issue fatwas according to seven perspectives.



Saffar from Imam al-Baqir (a.s.):

«تفسير القرآن على سبعة أحرف، منه ما كان، ومنه ما لم يكن بعد، ذلك تعرفه الأئمة.»

The interpretation of the Quran in seven words, some of which existed, and some of which did not exist yet; this is known by the Imams.

From Amir al-Muminin (a.s.):

«أنزل القرآن على سبعة أقسام كل منها شاف كاف، وهي: أمرٌ وزجرٌ وترغيبٌ وترهيبٌ وجدلٌ ومثلٌ و
قصص ...»

"The Quran was revealed in seven parts, each of which contains persuasion, prohibition, encouragement, deterrent, debate, parable, and stories."

2nd Group of Hadiths: The Words Can Be Used Interchangeably

Narrated by Ubayy bin Ka'b: The Messenger of Allah met Gabriel and said to him, 'Verily, I have been sent to an illiterate nation among whom are the elderly, the aged, the young boy, the young girl, and the man who has never read a book.' Gabriel said, 'O Muhammad, the Quran was revealed in seven words.'

The hadith contradicts other hadiths like what is narrated from Imam al-Baqir (a.s.):

«إن القرآن واحدٌ نزل من عند واحد ولكن الاختلاف يجيء من قبل الرواة»

The Quran is one, revealed from One, but the differences arise from the narrators.

عَنِ الْفَضِيلِ بْنِ يَسَارٍ قَالَ قُلْتُ لِأَبِي عَبْدِ اللَّهِ (عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام) إِنَّ النَّاسَ يَقُولُونَ إِنَّ الْقُرْآنَ نَزَلَ عَلَى سَبْعَةِ أَحْرَفٍ فَقَالَ كَذَبُوا أَعْدَاءُ اللَّهِ وَلَكِنَّهُ نَزَلَ عَلَى حَرْفٍ وَاحِدٍ مِنْ عِنْدِ الْوَاحِدِ

Once, I said to Abu 'Abdillah 'People say that the Holy Quran was revealed upon seven letters.' The Imam said, 'They, the enemies of Allah, lie. It was revealed upon one letter from One source

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IMAM SADIQ peace be upon him
ONLINE SEMINARY

Final Points:

1. The content of the hadiths that say the Quran was revealed in seven languages and the hadiths themselves are not reliable.
2. On what basis and criteria did Mujahid limit the reciters to seven?!!