

### Reciting Arabic in Broken Phrases

Q: Ilm-4: It was written in an Urdu booklet that in some Madrassahs, children are taught the Kalimah in broken phrases. When teaching them Laa Ilaaha Illallaah, a child recites only Laa Ilaaha ('there is none worthy of worship') and then remains silent. The other children then echo his words and say it all together. Thereafter, he proceeds to say Illallaah and they all then repeat his words. This is Kufr. Please respond to put a stop to this.

Answer: Teaching children in this manner is not kufr since it is allowed because of the need. The object is not recitation, but education. Teachers usually teach the children first to recite "Qul A'oodhu" and then teach them to recite "Bi Rabbin Naas". Similarly, the children are first taught to recite "Wa Maa Muhahmmadun" and then they are taught to recite "Illa Rosool". This is permissible because of the need to do so and is not forbidden. In fact, Ulema state that when a teacher is menstruating, she should recite one syllable at a time and then stop. Had it been kufr to recite in broken phrases, the jurist would never have permitted this. However, when the children are capable of reciting Laa Ilaaha Illallaah, they should not be taught to recite it separately, but as one phrase. And Allaah knows best what is most correct.

Fatawa Rahimiyyah (Vol.1)