

**SIMON & SCHUSTER'S**  
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# URDU



READING BOOKLET

.....  
: *Travelers should always check with their* :  
: *nation's State Department for current* :  
: *advisories on local conditions before* :  
: *traveling abroad.* :  
.....

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# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

## URDU

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# URDU

## **Introduction**

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Urdu is one of the official languages of North India and Pakistan, and a national language of Fiji. It belongs to the Hindustani group of the Indo-Iranian branch of the Indo-European family.

Approximately two hundred million people around the world speak Urdu as a first or second language. Urdu-speaking descendants of Indian and Pakistani Muslims live in all countries having a sizable South Asian Diaspora, countries such as Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Botswana, Canada, Germany, Norway, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Thailand, the UK, the U.S., and Zambia.

## **The Urdu Language**

Urdu developed as the *lingua franca* in South Asia during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries in the regions governed by the Persian-speaking Mughal Empire, mainly in Eastern Pakistan and Northwestern India. It is considered by some to be one of the world's most beautiful languages and it is well-known for its beautiful poetry.

# URDU

## **Introduction (continued)**

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Urdu and Hindi are considered dialects of Hindustani. Linguistically, both Urdu and Hindi are virtually identical languages and they are mutually intelligible. However, they differ in that Urdu has been influenced by Arabic and Persian, whereas Hindi draws more heavily upon Sanskrit. There are four primary dialects of Urdu. This course teaches the standard register of the Urdu dialect of Hindustani.

Pakistan follows a three-language policy whereby children learn both Urdu and English in school and are then given the opportunity to learn a local language such as Sindhi or Punjabi. Although Urdu is the primary means of communication in Pakistan, a large number of Pakistanis speak other languages, such as Baluchi, an Iranian language, or Pashto, an official language of Afghanistan.

Urdu was most formally defined as a dialect of Hindustani when the country was divided into India and Pakistan in 1947. Urdu is an evolving language which has borrowed many loan words from Farsi, Punjabi, Pashto, and most recently, English. The connection between Urdu and Farsi is so strong

# URDU

## **Introduction (continued)**

that the Urdu alphabet is almost identical to that of Farsi, and there are numerous cognates in the two languages.

### **The Urdu Script**

One of the major differences between Urdu and Hindi is that Hindi is written using the Devanagiri script, while Urdu is written in a derivative of the Persian alphabet, which is itself a derivative of the Arabic alphabet. It is read from right to left (except for numbers which are written from left to right). Urdu differs in appearance from Arabic in that it uses the more complex and sinuous Nastaliq script whereas Arabic tends to the easier-to-read Naskh. Nastaliq is notoriously difficult to typeset, so Urdu newspapers are often made from hand-written masters. Although the styles are different, people who can read Urdu can also read Arabic, as Arabic uses the same alphabet but with fewer letters.

# URDU

## Introduction (continued)










### The Urdu Alphabet

Although there has been much debate on the alphabet, and some linguists claim that there are as many as 93 letters, it is generally accepted that there are 38 letters in the Urdu Alphabet. Some letters function as both vowels and consonants.

Some distinguishing characteristics of written Urdu are:

- Urdu letters can have one, two, or three dots. These dots can be placed either above or below the letter. The absence or presence of the dots, as well as the number and placement, help to identify a letter and determine how it will be pronounced.

- As in cursive English, most Urdu letters connect to those that follow (in Urdu, they connect to the left). However, nine letters, called “non-connectors,” do not connect. They are:

(zhe)  (dal)  (Dal)  (zaal)  (alef)   
(vao)  (re)  (Re)  (ze) 



# URDU

## Introduction (continued)

- When letters connect, they often modify their shape and undergo a reduction, as in the example below. (Remember to read the line right to left.)

$$\leftarrow \text{-----}$$

$$\text{سا} = (\text{alef})^{\text{ا}} + (\text{siin}) \text{س}$$

- Many letters modify their shape according to their position in a word – depending on whether they appear in an initial, medial, or final position. For example the following word begins and ends with the Urdu letter “b.”

$$(\text{baab}) \text{باب}$$

- A letter will also sometimes change shape depending on the letters around it. For example, notice how the *kaaf* in the words below changes shape. (Read right to left.)

$$\leftarrow \text{-----}$$

$$(\text{baRi ye}) \text{ے} + (\text{kaaf}) \text{ك} + (\text{pe}) \text{پ} + (\text{alef}) \text{آ}$$

$$(\text{aapke}) \text{آپكے} =$$

$$(\text{alef})^{\text{ا}} + (\text{kaaf}) \text{ك} + (\text{pe}) \text{پ} + (\text{alef}) \text{آ}$$

$$(\text{aapka}) \text{آپكا} =$$

# URDU

## **Introduction (continued)**

---

- In written Urdu, there are “short” and long” vowels. The “short vowels” may be represented by “diacritics” or marks above and below letters. Often these diacritics are omitted.
- The appearance of some letters may vary slightly, depending on the choice of font.

A complete listing of the Urdu alphabet and diacritics follow. You should use this chart for reference only, as all the information you need to do the Readings is contained on the audio.

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## Alphabet Chart

Final unconnected with <i>alef</i>	Final connected with <i>laam</i>	Medial between <i>laam</i> and <i>alef</i>	Initial with <i>alef</i>	Independent	Name	Name
				ا	اَلِف	alif
ب	ب	ب	ب	ب	ب	be
پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	pe
ت	ت	ت	ت	ت	ت	te
ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	Te
ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	se
ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	jiim
چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	che

# URDU

## Alphabet Chart (continued)

Final unconnected with <i>alef</i>	Final connected with <i>laam</i>	Medial between <i>laam</i> and <i>alef</i>	Initial with <i>alef</i>	Independent	Name	Name
ا ح	ح	لح	حا	ح	بڑی ہے	baRi he
ا خ	خ	لخ	خا	خ	خے	ke
ا د	د	لد	دا	د	دال	daal
ا ڈ	ڈ	لڈ	ڈا	ڈ	ڈال	Daal
ا ذ	ذ	لذ	ذا	ذ	ذال	zaal
ا ر	ر	لر	را	ر	رے	re
ا ژ	ژ	لژ	ژا	ژ	ژے	Re
ا ز	ز	لز	زا	ز	زے	ze

# URDU

## Alphabet Chart (continued)

Final unconnected with <i>alef</i>	Final connected with <i>laam</i>	Medial between <i>laam</i> and <i>alef</i>	Initial with <i>alef</i>	Independent	Name	Name
اں	لس	لسا	سا	س	سین	siin
اش	لش	لشا	شا	ش	شین	shiin
اص	لص	لصا	صا	ص	ضاد	suad
اض	لض	لضا	ضا	ض	ضاد	zuad
اط	لط	لطا	طا	ط	طوے	to'e
اظ	لظ	لظا	ظا	ظ	ظوے	zo'e
اع	لح	لحا	عا	ع	عین	ain
اغ	لغ	لغا	غا	غ	غین	ghain
اف	لف	لفا	فا	ف	فے	fe

# URDU

## Alphabet Chart (continued)











Final unconnected with <i>alef</i>	Final connected with <i>laam</i>	Medial between <i>laam</i> and <i>alef</i>	Initial with <i>alef</i>	Independent	Name	Name
اق	لق	لقا	قا	ق	قاف	qaaf
اک	کک	کا	کا	ک	کاف	kaaf
اگ	گگ	گا	گا	گ	گاف	gaaf
ال	لل	لا	لا / لا	ل	لام	laam
ام	لم	لا	ما	م	میم	miim
ان	نن	نا	نا	ن	نون	noon
او	و	وا	وا	و	واو	vao
اھ	ھ	ھا	با	ھ	چھوٹی ہے	choti he

# URDU

## Urdu Alphabet Chart (continued)

Final unconnected with <i>alef</i>	Final connected with <i>laam</i>	Medial between <i>laam</i> and <i>alef</i>	Initial with <i>alef</i>	Independent	Name	Name
اھ	لھ	لھا	ھا	ھ	دو چھٹی ہے	do chasmi he
ای	لی	لیا	یا	ی	چھوٹی ہے	choti ye
اے	لے	لیا	یا	ے	بڑی ہے	baRi ye

## Diacritics Chart

Name	Diacritic	Example	Usage
mad			Only appears on top of an initial <i>alef</i> .
zabar			Appears above a letter and makes a shorter “a” sound. Shown here over the letter <i>re</i> .
zer			Appears below a letter and makes a shorter “i” sound. Shown here below the letter <i>re</i> .
pesh			Appears above a letter and makes a shorter “u” sound. Shown here over the letter <i>re</i> .
tashdeed			Appears above a letter and doubles the consonant. Shown here over the letter <i>re</i> .



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## **The Reading Lessons**

There are twenty Urdu Reading Lessons. You may choose to do the Readings along with the units, starting with Unit Eleven, or all together after completing the rest of the course. Feel free to repeat the Reading Lessons as often as necessary for practice with the Urdu alphabet and the sounds it represents.

Some of the words and phrases you will read are taught in this course, but most are not, and – especially in the early lessons – some may simply be syllables rather than actual words. Actual words are used more and more as the number of letters introduced increases. Diacritics will be included in Reading Lessons One through Nineteen. Occasionally in these lessons words will be shown without diacritics, but only after you have already read the same words with diacritics. In Lesson Twenty you will be asked to read an exchange of short phrases consisting of words you’ve learned in this course without the diacritical marks.



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## Lesson One

1. ا 11. ڈاداز

2. دا 12. آد

3. داد 13. ادا

4. دادا 14. اداز

5. ڈا 15. از

6. ڈادا 16. آزاد

7. زا 17. زازا

8. ڈازا 18. ڈازاد

9. زادا 19. زاد

10. دازا 20. ازاداد

# URDU

## Lesson Two

- |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. دازاز  | 11. سارا  |
| 2. را     | 12. ساز   |
| 3. راز    | 13. آڑ    |
| 4. زارا   | 14. دَرَد |
| 5. دار    | 15. ساس   |
| 6. رازاد  | 16. زرد   |
| 7. رازدار | 17. رزا   |
| 8. داڑا   | 18. سَزا  |
| 9. داڑ    | 19. دَرَس |
| 10. سا    | 20. دَس   |

## URDU

### Lesson Three

- |              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| 1. رَس       | 11. بڑا     |
| 2. شاد       | 12. بٹر     |
| 3. شاد / ساز | 13. سبز     |
| 4. دِش       | 14. برابر   |
| 5. رِشار     | 15. بارِش   |
| 6. دِشت      | 16. سَبَب   |
| 7. شاراد     | 17. رِش     |
| 8. باد       | 18. سَر     |
| 9. بِستر     | 19. سازِش   |
| 10. شَب      | 20. سَر دار |

## URDU

### Lesson Four

- |                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| 1. بازار         | 11. شراب      |
| 2. بار بار       | 12. زار       |
| 3. بَشاش         | 13. اسرار     |
| 4. ذَا           | 14. آباد      |
| 5. دُرا سا       | 15. سَر دَر د |
| 6. ذادار / زادار | 16. سر درد    |
| 7. باذ           | 17. بابت      |
| 8. آب            | 18. شراب      |
| 9. آب / آب       | 19. سَر سبز   |
| 10. آساب         | 20. سرد       |

# URDU

## Lesson Five

- |              |           |
|--------------|-----------|
| 1. باب       | 11. بیدار |
| 2. آبخار     | 12. بیس   |
| 3. ژا        | 13. دَبی  |
| 4. شاباش     | 14. تار   |
| 5. پیب       | 15. تیر   |
| 6. پید       | 16. رات   |
| 7. زابیدا    | 17. ستر   |
| 8. باس / باش | 18. شیر   |
| 9. زیرہا     | 19. شیر   |
| 10. زردی     | 20. ترتیب |

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### Lesson Six

- |            |          |
|------------|----------|
| 11. بو     | 1. بیرى  |
| 12. روس    | 2. جا    |
| 13. سورج   | 3. جارى  |
| 14. خیر    | 4. اجازت |
| 15. جبر    | 5. درج   |
| 16. اس سبب | 6. بچ    |
| 17. سواری  | 7. ورزش  |
| 18. بحری   | 8. ورزش  |
| 19. جدید   | 9. آواز  |
| 20. ورید   | 10. رواج |



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## Lesson Seven

- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| 11. بُرا    | 1. اِیجاد  |
| 12. بِیُسُر | 2. جَذبات  |
| 13. سُنا    | 3. نان     |
| 14. لِباس   | 4. نَدَر   |
| 15. لوبیا   | 5. اِنْدَر |
| 16. لوبان   | 6. تانبا   |
| 17. دَلْدَل | 7. اِنجیر  |
| 18. دلدل    | 8. نارنجی  |
| 19. چِلدساز | 9. نِشان   |
| 20. بولتا   | 10. سُر    |

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### Lesson Eight

- |               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| 11. صبر       | 1. جُز     |
| 12. تصویر     | 2. شِدّت   |
| 13. لابوص     | 3. دال     |
| 14. آسان      | 4. لاش     |
| 15. ساسان     | 5. کان     |
| 16. آج رات    | 6. کتاب    |
| 17. ریسٹوران  | 7. سکتا    |
| 18. زبر       | 8. دوست    |
| 19. صدر بازار | 9. دوکانیں |
| 20. جوتا      | 10. صدی    |

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### Lesson Nine

- |            |               |
|------------|---------------|
| 1. آنسو    | 11. نقاب      |
| 2. جینا    | 12. مُشتاق    |
| 3. نرس     | 13. میل       |
| 4. دَرَجَن | 14. لمبا      |
| 5. قا      | 15. ماش / ساش |
| 6. قلیل    | 16. دَم       |
| 7. لَقَب   | 17. میم       |
| 8. نقد     | 18. قابیل     |
| 9. جَق     | 19. تمام      |
| 10. رقص    | 20. شمس       |

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### Lesson Ten

- |                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| 11. غرق          | 1. بَندر |
| 12. غریب / قَریب | 2. میں   |
| 13. داغ          | 3. قید   |
| 14. برق          | 4. کیسے  |
| 15. بالغ         | 5. تاک   |
| 16. بستی         | 6. شاید  |
| 17. سبب / بیان   | 7. جلدی  |
| 18. مرید / سے    | 8. ایک   |
| 19. تیز / دیار   | 9. یاد   |
| 20. کتنے دن؟     | 10. آغاز |

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### Lesson Eleven

- |             |                   |
|-------------|-------------------|
| 1. شَرَبَتْ | 11. ضِدِّي        |
| 2. شام      | 12. ضَرَبَ        |
| 3. فالتو    | 13. مَظْلُوم      |
| 4. فَرَار   | 14. ناراض         |
| 5. فَرَق    | 15. نِصْف         |
| 6. بَرَف    | 16. رِبَان        |
| 7. سَفَر    | 17. شَالِیمَار    |
| 8. صِفَت    | 18. قَدَر کَرْنَا |
| 9. ظَالِم   | 19. غَضَب / غَضَب |
| 10. تَظْیِر | 20. فَضِیْلَت     |

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### Lesson Twelve

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. مجرم        | 11. رُخ          |
| 2. مُرغی       | 12. سیخ          |
| 3. صاف         | 13. سختی         |
| 4. غذا         | 14. پاپا         |
| 5. سبزی / اذان | 15. پالا / تالا  |
| 6. بازی        | 16. کپاس         |
| 7. مردان       | 17. روپ          |
| 8. خادم        | 18. آپ کے پاس    |
| 9. خاص / جام   | 19. آپ کا خاندان |
| 10. خُدا       | 20. اِسکی قیمت   |

## URDU

### Lesson Thirteen

- |              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| 1. خوب       | 11. صحافت         |
| 2. کیلو      | 12. صحافی         |
| 3. ایک منٹ   | 13. روح           |
| 4. چپ        | 14. کراچی         |
| 5. چال / جال | 15. خیابان        |
| 6. بچاس      | 16. سٹریٹ         |
| 7. پانچ      | 17. بلوچ ریسٹوران |
| 8. چوبیس     | 18. چار بجے       |
| 9. حاصل      | 19. کل رات        |
| 10. حالات    | 20. خُدا حافظ     |

## URDU

### Lesson Fourteen

- |            |                       |
|------------|-----------------------|
| 1. خوابوں  | 11. طاس               |
| 2. جاوید   | 12. طہی               |
| 3. پیام    | 13. لطیفہ             |
| 4. چائے    | 14. بہت               |
| 5. ہوٹل    | 15. شکرِ یہ           |
| 6. جی ہاں  | 16. ثبوت              |
| 7. کہاں    | 17. فصل / نسل / مثال  |
| 8. جی نہیں | 18. کیا آپ --- ؟      |
| 9. راستہ   | 19. بولتی             |
| 10. کیونکہ | 20. کیا آپ بولتی ہیں؟ |



## Lesson Fifteen

1. حال چال
2. لالا
3. کیوں نہیں؟
4. عادات
5. غار / عام
6. بعد میں
7. خریداری
8. جُمعہ
9. حُدا
10. بھی

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### Lesson Fifteen (continued)

11. پھر

12. انکھ

13. میرے ساتھ

14. گارڈ

15. گوشت

16. انگریزی

17. آپ لوگ

18. آپ لوگ کہاں ---

19. جا رہے ---

20. آپ لوگ کہاں جا رہے ہیں؟

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### Lesson Sixteen

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. تعمیر      | 11. فاش       |
| 2. لَسی       | 12. سَو       |
| 3. غایب       | 13. اُنّیس سو |
| 4. آرزو       | 14. لیٹر      |
| 5. عادت       | 15. ہمارا     |
| 6. پانی       | 16. کلو میٹر  |
| 7. شبِ بخیر   | 17. ظریف      |
| 8. ابھی تک    | 18. نظم       |
| 9. شادی       | 19. سامان     |
| 10. اُسکے بعد | 20. رسالہ     |

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## Lesson Seventeen

1. سَمُور
2. عَرَش
3. ثَابِت
4. کُھلی
5. گانا
6. نَشَاط
7. بَہار
8. گاؤں
9. دائیں طَرَف
10. چاؤل

## URDU

### Lesson Seventeen (continued)

11. سِگار

12. دیکھئے

13. شوہر

14. بیگم

15. چِپاتی

16. مچھلی

17. بُزرگ

18. آپ کیسے ہیں؟

19. کیا آپ پاکستانی ہیں؟

20. سر آنکھوں پر۔

## Lesson Eighteen

1. میرا بیٹا
2. بچہ
3. آپ کے کتنے بچے ہیں؟
4. ہمارے تین بچے ہیں۔
5. دو بیٹے
6. ایک بیٹی
7. رات کا کھانا
8. ہمارے ساتھ
9. آپ چاہتے ہیں
10. معاف کیجئے

Lesson Eighteen (continued)

11. پھر سینے۔

12. ٹھیک ہیں۔

13. آپ کہاں رہتی ہیں؟

14. فیصل آباد

15. لاہور

16. حیدر آباد

17. کیا یہ چائے ہے؟

18. آپ نے کیا کہا؟

19. یہ بہت زیادہ ہے!

20. یہ بہت مہنگا ہے۔

## Lesson Nineteen

1. السلام یم۔
2. وعلیکم السلام۔
3. آپ سے مل کے۔۔۔
4. خوشی ہوئی۔
5. زحمت نہیں ہے۔
6. آپ کی بڑی۔۔۔
7. مہربانی۔
8. چھہ بجے ہیں۔
9. اور کل؟
10. مجھے آج۔۔۔



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### Lesson Nineteen (continued)

11. کام کرنا ہے۔
12. آپ کے پاس ---
13. کتنے پیسے ہیں؟
14. بارہ سو روپے۔
15. ختم ---
16. ہو گئی ہے۔
17. یہ آپ کے لیے ہے۔ یہ آپ کے لیے ہے۔
18. کس کے ساتھ؟
19. بہت تیز
20. وہ وہاں ہے۔

## Lesson Twenty

1. السلام میم۔
2. وعلیکم السلام۔
3. کیا میں آپ کے لیے ---
4. کچھ چائے ملاؤں؟
5. زحمت نہیں کریں۔
6. زحمت نہیں ہے۔
7. آپ کی بڑی مہربانی۔
8. یہ لیجئے۔
9. شکریہ۔ چائے اچھی ہے۔
10. آپ امریکی ہیں؟

## Lesson Twenty (continued)

11. جی ہاں۔ میں امریکی ہوں۔
12. آپ امریکہ میں ---
13. کہاں رہتے ہیں؟
14. میں نیو یورک میں ---
15. آپنی بیگم کے ساتھ رہتا ہوں۔
16. آپ کے بچے ہیں؟
17. جی ہاں، ہمارے چار بچے ہیں۔
18. اور آپ؟
19. جی ہاں، ایک بیٹا اور ایک بیٹی۔
20. چائے کے لیے بہت بہت شکریہ۔

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