

## LESSON 1

In this lesson we learn the following things:

What is this?

مَا هَذَا؟

This is a book.

هَذَا كِتَابٌ .

Is this a house?

أَهَذَا بَيْتٌ؟

Yes, this is a house.

نعم ، هَذَا بَيْتٌ .

No, this is a mosque.

لا ، هَذَا مَسْجِدٌ .

Who is this?

مَنْ هَذَا؟

Note:

1. هَذَا is pronounced هَآذَا, but it is written without the first alif.
2. Arabic has no word corresponding to the English "is", i.e. Arabic has no copula.
3. There is no word in Arabic corresponding to "a" in English as in "this is a book". The n-sound at the end of the Arabic noun (*kitābu-n*, *baitu-n*, *masjidu-n*) is the Arabic indefinite article corresponding to the English "a"/"an". This n-sound is called **tanwīn**.
4. The particle أَ placed at the beginning of a statement turns it into a question, e.g.

This is a house.

هَذَا بَيْتٌ .

Is this a house?

أَهَذَا بَيْتٌ؟

|           |               |           |          |
|-----------|---------------|-----------|----------|
| بَيْتٌ    | house         | وَلَدٌ    | boy      |
| مَسْجِدٌ  | mosque        | طَالِبٌ   | student  |
| بَابٌ     | door          | رَجُلٌ    | man      |
| كِتَابٌ   | book          | تَاجِرٌ   | merchant |
| قَلَمٌ    | pen           | كَلْبٌ    | dog      |
| مِفْتَاحٌ | key           | قِطٌّ     | cat      |
| مَكْتَبٌ  | writing table | حِمَارٌ   | donkey   |
| سَرِيرٌ   | bed           | حَصَانٌ   | horse    |
| كُرْسِيٌّ | chair         | جَمَلٌ    | camel    |
| نَجْمٌ    | star          | دَيْكٌ    | rooster  |
| قَمِيصٌ   | shirt         | مُدَرِّسٌ | teacher  |
| طَبِيبٌ   | doctor        | مِنْدِيلٌ | kerchief |