CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

For muslim people, Tajwid is very important since it outlines the correct method of pronunciation for Arabic letters, the interaction of the letters when they meet, individual words and sentences—in order to recite the Qur'an properly, as close as possible to the original recitation at the time of Revelation. However, apart from religious interest, Tajwid in fact contains many interesting linguistic phenomena. One of them is in the field of Phonology, notably the concurrence of nasal assimilation and lengthening processes. We may find the process of nasal assimilation or lengthening only in any other languages, yet the processes of nasal assimilation and lengthening occurring at the same time are distinctive and may only be found in Tajwid. By studying Tajwid from different viewpoint (other than religious one), we may see that it is not simply a matter of reciting the Qur'an correctly, but the fact that the phonological phenomenon in Tajwid may become an interesting linguistic analysis.

From the study conducted, the writer finds that there are several principles in *Tajwid* which contain nasal assimilation and lengthening processes occurring simultaneously. The first principle identified is *Iqlab*. In *Iqlab* we find a process of regressive homorganic nasal assimilation, where a consonant (in this case is /n/) becomes more similar to a consonant which shares the same place of articulation (= homorganic) with the consonant following it (i.e. [b]). Based on the data presented, the assimilation seems to occur generally, without any restriction from word boundary. Another process found in *Iqlab* is lengthening. If we view

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the homorganic nasal assimilation and the lengthening processes as occurring in two diachronic stages, the /n/ first becomes [m] before [b], then the [m] is lengthened. In times when there was no modern speech device used to measure the duration of length, there were several traditional and manual ways employed. But today it is found that based on normal recitation, the duration of lengthening which accompanies nasalization, ranges from 1.0 - 1.3 seconds. In this inquiry, the lengthening is represented by double over-rings above the affected phoneme ([**]). This symbol is specially devised by the writer to represent the occurrence of 'extra' lengthening of consonants in Tajwid, as there is no symbol yet in IPA transcription that appropriately serves the purpose. The two processes found in Iqlab are represented by means of phonological rules as follows:

Homorganic nasal assimilation

Lengthening

$$[m] \rightarrow [+long] / _[b], \text{ or}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} +nasal \\ +bilabial \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow [+long] / _ \begin{pmatrix} + \text{ voice} \\ + \text{ bilabial} \\ + \text{ cons} \end{pmatrix}$$

The second principle is *Ikhfa' Haqiqi*. In *Ikhfa' Haqiqi*, besides lengthening process, we also find a process of regressive homorganic nasal assimilation. In this process, the /n/ becomes several allophones, notably [m], n, n, n, n, n, n, and n. The variants are created as anticipatory (regressive)

- Homorganic nasal assimilation

$$/n/ \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{c} + \text{ nasal} \\ \alpha \text{ [place]} \end{array}\right) / \underline{\qquad} \left(\begin{array}{c} + \text{ consonantal} \\ \alpha \text{ [place]} \end{array}\right)$$

- Lengthening

$$\begin{pmatrix} + \text{ nasal} \\ \alpha \text{ [place]} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \text{[+long]} / \underline{ \begin{pmatrix} + \text{ consonantal} \\ \alpha \text{ [place]} \end{pmatrix} }$$

The third principle identified is *Idgham bi Ghunnah*. In *Idgham bi Ghunnah*, besides lengthening, we find two diachronic processes of progressive nasal assimilation and regressive total assimilation. This is the reason why the case is called *Idgham Bi Ghunnah*, which means assimilating with nasalizing. In fact, both processes occur synchronically. The /n/ nasalizes the following segments (/j, n, m, w/), and the segments assimilate the /n/. Interestingly, the segments /j, n, m, w/ at the beginning of a word still retain their nasality when they assimilate the phoneme /n/ at the end of the preceding word. The phoneme /n/ itself also retain its nasal feature when it is in turn assimilated by /j, n, m, w/. It

seems that nasality is a strong feature in the two cases. Another thing to note is that this assimilation seems to be restricted by word boundary. The rules for processes found in *Idgham Bi Ghunnah* are stipulated as follows:

- Progressive Nasal Assimilation

/j, n, m, w/
$$\rightarrow$$
 [j, ñ, m, w] / [n]__, or

$$\begin{pmatrix} +\text{voice} \\ +\text{sonorant} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow [+\text{nasal}] / \begin{pmatrix} +\text{cons} \\ +\text{nasal} \end{pmatrix} =$$

Regressive Total Assimilation

$$/n/ \rightarrow [j, n, m, w]/_\# \# [j, n, m, w], \text{ or}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} +\text{nasal} \\ +\text{coronal} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} +\text{voice} \\ +\text{sonorant} \\ +\text{nasal} \end{pmatrix} /_\# \# \begin{pmatrix} +\text{voice} \\ +\text{sonorant} \end{pmatrix}$$

Lengthening

The fourth process found is *Idgham Mutajaanisain*. Here, besides lengthening, we also find **regressive complete nasal assimilation**, where a consonant (in this case is /b/) becomes totally like a nasal consonant which follows it (i.e /m/). Since we have a very limited data (only one occurrence), we formulate the rules as general as possible, as the following:

Regressive Total Nasal Assimilation

$$(b) \rightarrow [m] / [m]$$
, or
$$\begin{pmatrix} -\text{ nasal} \\ +\text{ bilabial} \\ -\text{ sonorant} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} +\text{ nasal} \\ +\text{ bilabial} \\ +\text{ sonorant} \end{pmatrix} / \begin{pmatrix} +\text{ nasal} \\ +\text{ bilabial} \\ +\text{ sonorant} \end{pmatrix}$$

Lengthening

$$[m] \rightarrow [long] / _[m], \text{ or}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} + \text{ nasal} \\ + \text{ bilabial} \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow [+long] / _ \begin{pmatrix} + \text{ nasal} \\ + \text{ bilabial} \end{pmatrix}$$

In sum, from all principles of *Tajwid* identified, there are two kinds of directional assimilation: progressive nasal assimilation and regressive nasal assimilation. By the extent, we also find two types of assimilation: partial assimilation and total/complete assimilation. The nasal assimilation found in the *Tajwid* principles occurs synchronically with the lengthening processes, not separately. Here we learn that the lengthening is applicable not only when the affected segment shares the same place feature with the following segment, but also when the segments involved include nasality. If one of the conditions is not present, then the lengthening rule is not applicable.

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