THE ARABIST

AL-JISR

YOUR BRIDGE INTO ARABIC

Al-Jisr means “the bridge”. On one side: you, reading Arabic. On the other: a strong foundation in all four skills, with the ability to communicate, study, take and give instruction, all in Arabic. 18 months to cross.

Al-‘Arabiyyah Bayna Yadayk Books 1 & 2, plus nahw, sarf & literature.

FIRST COHORT · STARTS MID-DECEMBER

I COULDN'T WRITE ARABIC.

For my first six months of classes, I wrote everything in transliteration.

ahlan wa sahlan · ana ismee…

kitaab · madrasah · ustaadh

STARTED BEFORE AND STOPPED? THIS IS FOR YOU.



FOUNDER'S NOTE

Samiul Islam (Abū Amānah)

A NATIVE SPEAKER KNOWS ARABIC. I KNOW HOW TO LEARN IT.

I'm Samiul. I studied law at the University of Warwick, and I've studied Arabic part-time, alongside a full-time job and a family, at institutes across the UK, online and with teachers from Egypt and Nigeria. Today I'm upper-intermediate (B1–B2), and I read classical texts to benefit first-hand from our rich intellectual tradition. I'm not a scholar, and I don't teach as one. By the bounty of Allah, books once closed to me are now open.

It took me eight years of small, consistent progress, and plenty of wrong turns, to get here. You don't need to repeat them. Al-Jisr is the order I wish I'd been given at the start.

Along the way I built the tools I wished existed:

aldiwan.uk
11,000+ classical Arabic poems

riwaayah.uk
Vocabulary through hadith

THE COURSE

18 MONTHS

Aiming for intermediate.

01 · Book 1 · Beginner
Reading and writing practice, then everyday Arabic: family, home, food, prayer, travel, Hajj and Umrah.

02 · Book 2 · Intermediate
Personal and social life, the wider world, and formal grammar.

+ Nahw, sarf & literature
Additional books for the structure underneath, and real Arabic literature to read with it.

Then · Books 3 & 4
Al-Jisr is just the start. Complete the programme and you can continue to Books 3 & 4, on the same model.

WHAT YOU WALK AWAY WITH

18 MONTHS, IN NUMBERS

1,623
words & phrases in your Anki review

32
real-life topics

850+
textbook pages of Arabic

352
textbook lessons covered

195
hours of live teaching

4
skills: read, write, listen, speak

START	A1	A2	B1
Reading Arabic	Book 1A	Book 1B–2A	Book 2B → 5–6

Indicative CEFR levels. B1: you can follow clear Arabic and study with a teacher in full Arabic.

WHAT YOU GET

BUILT SO YOU DON'T STOP THIS TIME

1,623
Anki cards, matched to every unit

Listening practice
Every week, from beginner series to classical

Max 7 students
A small group where you're seen and heard

Taught in English
The way I wish I'd been taught

YOUR MENTORSHIP

Monthly 1-2-1 call	30 minutes: progress, feedback, next steps
Personal study plan	Built around your goal, with series and books to match
Ask me anything	Replies within 24 hours on weekdays
Speaking review	A 2-minute voice note each month, with feedback
Written progress note	At the end of every module, yours to keep

BROTHERS' GROUP

Mondays & Thursdays · 6:30–7:45pm (UK)
Lesson 1: text & theory · Lesson 2: exercises & speaking

YOUR QUESTIONS

THE HARD QUESTIONS FIRST

£199 feels like a lot. Aren't there cheaper options?

It's a fair question, and yes, there's always something cheaper. But think about a skill it took you years to build: what would you feel was a fair hourly rate to teach it, live, to a small group, with support between lessons?

£199 covers **3 months**, not one: 26 live lessons of 1h15 (32.5 hours). That's just over **£6 an hour**, around half the UK minimum wage, with the mentorship, decks and a group of 7 on top. A GCSE tutor typically charges £30 or more an hour, yet with Arabic we've come to expect it to cost almost nothing.

Prefer to spread it? It's £79 a month. Try it risk-free with the two-week refund. If you can't afford it, message me privately and we'll work something out. We don't believe money should ever be a barrier to knowledge; we do this for the sake of Allah.

Why learn from you, and not a native speaker?

Because I've just made the journey you're about to start. I began unable to read or write Arabic properly; today, by the bounty of Allah, I read classical works for the love of the language. A native speaker never had to learn Arabic. I did, as an English speaker with a job and a family, so I know where people get stuck and how to get past it.

I'm honest about my level: B1–B2, not a scholar. My job is to give you foundations strong enough to study independently, then connect you with teachers who teach only in Arabic.

YOUR QUESTIONS

HONEST ANSWERS

I've started Arabic before and stopped. Why would this time be different?

Most people who stop aren't lazy. They just had no plan between lessons and nobody who noticed when they drifted. That's exactly what the mentorship is for: a study plan built around you, a 1-2-1 call every month, and questions answered within a day. Someone will notice if you drift.

Why pay when there's free Arabic on YouTube?

Free content is a great resource, and I use YouTube heavily myself. But our tradition has always been talqīn: knowledge passed from person to person, with a teacher who guides and corrects you. Real progress comes from structure, accountability and mentorship. Al-Jisr gets you to the level where YouTube becomes a powerful extra.

I work full-time and have a family. Can I really keep up?

I've done all eight years of my Arabic alongside a full-time job and a family, so I won't pretend it's easy. It's two evenings a week, and I'll help you build a self-study routine that fits real life, not an ideal week you'll never have.

What if it's not for me?

Join for the first two weeks. If it isn't right for you, message me and I'll refund you in full, no awkward conversation. After that, you're only ever committed to the module you're on, and you decide before each new one whether to continue.

YOUR QUESTIONS

HONEST ANSWERS

I can't read Arabic yet, or my pronunciation is weak. Is this for me?

To join Al-Jisr, you'll need to be able to read Arabic script, even slowly. If you can't read yet, or your pronunciation needs work, I can arrange a private foundation course before you join. You'll learn the letters, how to write them and correct pronunciation (makhārij al-ḥurūf), with the option to add tajwīd and practise it. It's exactly where I started: for my first six months of classes I wrote everything in transliteration. The foundation course is a separate private cost. Message me to set it up.

I already know some Arabic. Do I have to start from the beginning?

Not necessarily. Book a free 15-minute intro chat and we'll read a short paragraph together. It's not a test, just a way to find your right starting point. If you're past Book 1, Part A, you can join a later module when it opens, and private classes are always open.

What kind of Arabic will I learn? Fusha or dialect?

Modern Standard Arabic (Fusha): the Arabic of books, news and formal speech, and your bridge to classical and Quranic Arabic. The grammar you learn is the grammar of the Quran and the classical texts. If you'd like to understand dialects too, I'll help you pick them up through self-study once your Fusha is secure. You'll get my dialect watchlist: 60 series and hundreds of hours of viewing in Shami (Syrian and Lebanese), Saudi and Gulf Arabic, graded from easiest to hardest, with guidance on how to watch so you actually learn.

Online, class times, missed classes, sisters?

Online: live, so you can join from anywhere. **Class times:** can be discussed with the cohort, or set up your own private group of 3+. **Missed a class:** please attend live; recordings are available on request in exceptional circumstances. **Sisters:** the first cohort is a brothers' group; let me know if you're interested. More answers in the FAQ on the website.

WHY AL-JISR

IS IT WORTH IT?

WHAT £199 BUYS

- ✓ 26 live lessons: **just over £6 an hour**
- ✓ Monthly 1-2-1 call, study plan, speaking review, progress note
- ✓ 1,623 Anki cards, ready on day one
- ✓ No lock-in: decide after every module
- ✓ Max 7 students, so you speak every lesson
- ✓ Replies within 24 hours on weekdays
- ✓ Series, podcasts and books for your level

01 **I've just made the journey you're starting.**
From not reading Arabic properly to reading classical works for pleasure, as an English speaker with a job and a family. I know where people get stuck.

02 **I explain it the way an English speaker needs it.**
Arabic is my third language. I know where it feels strange.

03 **You won't be on your own between lessons.**
People stop when no one notices them drift. The mentorship makes sure someone does.

04 **The tools are already built.**
Decks, a resource guide and listening lists.

05 **I'm not trying to be your last teacher.**
Foundations to study independently, then Books 3 & 4 and an introduction to teachers who teach only in Arabic.

> **What I won't promise:** fluency in 18 months. Proficiency comes from du'aa and the tawfiq of Allah, then discipline and turning up. I promise the plan, the tools, someone walking with you, and an introduction to teachers who teach only in Arabic.

PRICING

PAY MODULE BY MODULE

18 months, 6 modules of about 3 months, paid one at a time. **Your first payment covers Module 1: Book 1, Part A.**

1 · Book 1A ✓ | **2 · Book 1B** | **3 · Book 2A** | **4 · Book 2B**

5–6 · Nahw, sarf & literature

Monthly

£79

a month · £237 for the module · just over £7 an hour

£237 ÷ 32.5 hours* = £7.29 an hour

MOST POPULAR

3 months upfront

£199

~~£237~~ · **You save £38**

One payment, whole module · about £15 a week · just over £6 an hour

£199 ÷ 32.5 hours* = £6.12 an hour

BEST VALUE

6 months upfront

£375

~~£474~~ · **You save £99**

Modules 1 & 2 · £62.50 a month · under £6 an hour

£375 ÷ 65 hours* = £5.77 an hour

EVERY MODULE INCLUDES

26 live lessons
32.5 hours over 13 weeks

1-2-1 mentorship
Monthly 30-minute call, study plan, speaking review and progress note

The module's Anki deck
Every unit's vocabulary, ready to review

Listening practice
Podcasts, series from beginner to advanced (Fusha and dialect), and lesson recordings on request

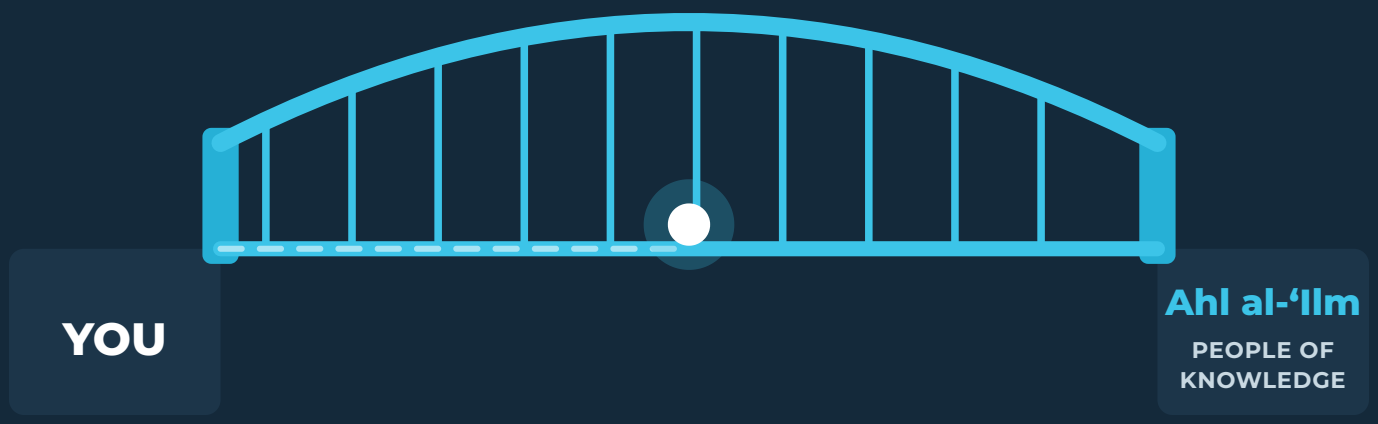
Books & digital resources
Where to buy books, and the tools every modern Arabic student needs

Max 7 students
A small group where you're seen and heard

*Each module is 26 lessons × 1h15 = 32.5 hours of live teaching. **£199 feels like a lot? See my honest answer on page 7.**

Not sure yet? Book a free 15-minute intro chat. No pressure.

To join: reserve on WhatsApp → pay with Monzo using your reference → confirm.



I BUILD THE BRIDGE TO THE PEOPLE OF KNOWLEDGE.

The journey after that is yours.

JOIN OUR FIRST COHORT

[Book a free 15-minute intro chat]

thearabist.co.uk

WhatsApp **@samiulislamm96** · Telegram **@SamiulIslamm**
arabicstudies26@gmail.com

Scan to WhatsApp