

## Grammatical Remarks

### The Definite Article with Gutturals

In this unit, we continue our discussion of the definite article (“the”) and see how it takes a slightly different form before the guttural letters. The reason for this is that the guttural letters א, ה, ח, ע, and also ר (which sometimes acts like a guttural, as here) cannot be doubled, i.e. they cannot take a *dagesh*. Since the *dagesh* is part of the regular form of the definite article, the absence of the *dagesh* sometimes affects the vowel of the definite article as well.

Regular Form	הַ	הַסּוּס, הַמֶּלֶךְ
Before א, ע, ר	הָ	הָאָב, הָעֵין, הָרֶאשׁ
Before ה, ח	הֶ	הֶהוּא, הַחֹמֶה
Before ה, ח, ע pointed with an unaccented <i>qamats</i>	הֶ	הֶהָרִים, הֶחֶכֶם, הֶעָנָן