

## **CHAPTER 2.3 GENDER :-**

The third property that all isms share is that they are either masculine or feminine. In Arabic the default gender is masculine and there is a reason behind an ism being feminine.

### **MASCULINE ISMS :-**

If an Ism does not come under any of the categories of feminine isms it is considered to be masculine. For example

MEANING	MASCULINE ISM
A boy	وَلَدٌ
Talha	طَلْحَةٌ
A believer	مُؤْمِنٌ
A house	بَيْتٌ
Muhammad	مُحَمَّدٌ

### **FEMININE ISMS :-**

In the Arabic language the feminine isms come under six categories. They are as follows,

#### **1. Real Feminine مونت حقيقي :-**

### **a. BIOLOGICAL FEMININE**

Those feminine Isms which have a biological masculine on the opposite spectrum. They are feminine by nature. Some examples are as follows

MASCULINE COUNTERPARTS	REAL FEMININE ISMS	MEANING
أَبٌ	أُمٌّ	MOTHER
وَلَدٌ	بِنْتٌ	DAUGHTER
أَخٌ	أُخْتٌ	SISTER
رَجُلٌ	أَمْرَأَةٌ	WOMAN
بَقْرٌ	بَقْرَةٌ	COW

### **b. Feminine By Meaning :-**

The nouns feminine by meaning even if they don't have any reason to be feminine

Menstruating) حَائِضٌ (Zainab) زَيْنَبُ (Mariam) مَرْيَمُ  
(bride) عَرُوسٌ (Pregnant woman) حَامِلٌ (Woman)

## **2. FAKE FEMININE :-**

## a. Feminine Isms that end with a sign at the end

### -: مونث لفظي ...

Another way to recognise Isms that are feminine is to look for any of the following symbols at the end of the Ism, they are as follows,

- Ta Marboota { ة } , this symbolises a feminine Ism such as مُسَلِّمَةٌ, مُدْرَسَةٌ, سَيَّارَةٌ ( most common way of finding feminine words)
- Alif Maqsoorah ي - الف مقصورة - ي حُسْنَى, صُغْرَى,
- Alif mamdudah آء - الف ممدودة - آء صَفْرَاءُ, سَمَاءُ,

MEANINGS	FEMININE ISMS
A Muslim (Female)	مُسَلِّمَةٌ
A School	مَدْرَسَةٌ
A Sky	سَمَاءُ
Yellow	صَفْرَاءُ
Kindness ( A name)	حُسْنَى
Small ( A name )	صُغْرَى

## b. Feminine Isms because Arabs said so .... مونث

### -: سماعي

Some Isms are considered feminine depending on their being declared feminine by the Arabs. There may not be any signs of feminine Ism but they are still considered feminine because the arabs said so (BASS)

There are certain categories of Isms that come under this category ,

- a. Because the Arabs said so

a. شَمْسٌ سَمَاءٌ حَرْبٌ نَفْسٌ دَلْوٌ نَارٌ رِيحٌ أَرْضٌ سَبِيلٌ دَارٌ بَيْتٌ جَهَنَّمٌ  
خَمْرٌ كَأْسٌ عَصَا

b. Body parts in pairs are considered as feminine

عَيْنٌ (eye) رِجْلٌ (leg) قَدَمٌ (foot) يَدٌ (hand) أُذُنٌ (ear) شَفَاةٌ (lip)

c. Proper name of places and tribes example

أَمْرِيكَا (america) مَكَّةُ (Mecca)

d. Broken plurals and all non human plurals are considered as feminine

كُتُبٌ (books) أَقْلَامٌ (pens) سَمَاوَاتٌ (skies) آيَاتٌ (Verses)

e. Some elements of nature for example,

أَرْضٌ (earth) سَمَاءٌ (Sky) شَمْسٌ (Sun) رِيحٌ (wind)

f. With masculine Isms that are on the scale of أَفْعَلٌ the feminine counterpart is on the فُعَلَى version

g. Names of wines

## EXCEPTIONS :-

1. Some isms are used both for masculine as well as feminine for example

حَالٌ (Condition) رُوْحِي (spirit) سَبِيْلٌ (path) إِصْبَعٌ (finger)

2. Some isms although they end with "Ta Marboota" are still considered masculine because they are masculine. For example,

عَلَّامَةٌ (scholar) خَلِيفَةٌ (caliph) حَمْرَةٌ (name)