

THE LANGUAGE OF QURAN



And We have certainly made the Qur'an easy for remembrance, so is there any who will remember?
SURAH AL-QAMAR (54:17)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
 Arabic Grammar (NAHW)
 @THE LANGUAGE OF QURAN
 العلم لا يأتي إنما يؤتى إليه
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Lesson 6

- 1- إِسْمُ الإِشَارَةِ -the pointing words
- 2- الإِسْمُ المَوْصُول -the relative pronouns
- 3- المُمَصَّافُ إِلَى مَعْرِفَةٍ -nouns linked with definite nouns

1- إِسْمُ الإِشَارَةِ -the pointing words :

In Arabic the words which are used to point at something are called إِسْمُ الإِشَارَةِ .

جمع	مثنى	واحد		إِسْمُ الإِشَارَةِ
هؤلاء These	هذان these two	هذا this (m)	مذكر	قَرِيب
هؤلاء These	هاتان these two(f)	هذه this(f)	مؤنث	قَرِيب
اولئك Those	ذانك those two	ذلك that	مذكر	بَعِيد
اولئك Those	تانك those two(f)	تلك that(f)	مؤنث	بَعِيد

Example:

1- هَذَا كِتَابٌ - this is a book (complete sentence)

إِسْمُ الْإِشَارَةِ - هذا - pointer

كِتَابٌ - مُشَارٌ إِلَيْهِ - The object pointed at.

2- ذَلِكَ الْكِتَابُ - that book (incomplete sentence)

إِسْمُ الْإِشَارَةِ - ذلك - pointer

الْكِتَابُ - مُشَارٌ إِلَيْهِ - the object pointed at.

Note that in the second example by adding the prefix ال , the sentence gives an incomplete meaning.

Note: difference between phrases and sentences will be discussed in the next lessons when we will study types of sentences.

If the مُشَارٌ إِلَيْهِ is مضاف then إِسْمُ الْإِشَارَةِ will come after مضاف إليه

Example:

قَمِيصِي هَذَا This shirt of mine

If the مُشَارٌ إِلَيْهِ is مضاف إليه then إِسْمُ الْإِشَارَةِ will come before مضاف إليه

Example:

كِتَابُ هَذِهِ الْبِنْتِ This girl's book or book of this girl

Sometimes there are more than one idaafa construction in one phrase. In such a case, the noun in the middle, being the mudaaf ilahi of the first noun will always take the kasra and being the mudaaf of the last noun will never take al or tanween.

Example:

مَالِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ The master of the day of the judgement
Surah 1:4

مضاف اليه	مضاف اليه و مضاف	مضاف
الدِّينِ	يَوْمِ	مَالِكِ

Examples from Quran:

This is the Book about which there is no doubt, a guidance for those conscious of Allah	ذَلِكَ الْكِتَابُ لَا رَيْبَ فِيهِ هُدًى لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ Al-Baqarah 2:2
Those are upon [right] guidance from their Lord, and it is those who are the successful	أُولَئِكَ عَلَىٰ هُدًى مِّن رَّبِّهِمْ وَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ Al-Baqarah 2:5
And [recall] when We said, "Enter this city and eat from it wherever you will in [ease and] abundance, and enter the gate bowing humbly and say, 'Relieve us of our burdens.' We will [then] forgive your sins for you, and We will increase the doers of good [in goodness and reward]."	وَإِذْ قُلْنَا ادْخُلُوا هَذِهِ الْقَرْيَةَ فَكُلُوا مِنْهَا حَيْثُ شِئْتُمْ رَغَدًا وَّادْخُلُوا الْبَابَ سُجَّدًا وَقُولُوا حِطَّةً نَّغْفِرْ لَكُمْ خَطَايَاكُمْ وَسَنَزِيدُ الْمُحْسِنِينَ Al-Baqarah 2:58
They said, "Indeed, these are two magicians who want to drive you out of your land with their magic and do away with your most exemplary way."	قَالُوا إِنَّ هَٰذَيْنِ لَسَاحِرَانِ يُرِيدَانِ أَنْ يُخْرِجَاكَ مِّنْ أَرْضِكَ بِسِحْرِهِمَا وَيَذْهَبَا بِطَرِيقَتِكَ الْمُثَلَّىٰ

2- الإِسْمُ الْمَوْصُولُ -the relative pronouns:

A Relative pronoun is a word used after a noun that can be a person or thing we are talking about to make it clear and to modify the information about it.

جمع	مثنى	واحد	
الَّذِينَ Those who	الَّذَانِ Those two who	الَّذِي He who	مذكر
الَّتِي Those who	الَّتَانِ Those two who	الَّتِي She who	مؤنث

Examples from Quran:

But if you are unable to do so—and you will never be able to do so—then fear the Fire fuelled with people and stones, which is prepared for the disbelievers.	فَإِنْ لَّمْ تَفْعَلُوا وَلَنْ تَفْعَلُوا فَاتَّقُوا النَّارَ الَّتِي وَقُودُهَا النَّاسُ وَالْحِجَارَةُ أَعِدَّتْ لِلْكَافِرِينَ ٢٤
Those who believe and do good, for them will be bliss and an honourable destination.”	الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ طُوبَىٰ لَهُمْ وَحُسْنُ مَآبٍ ٢٩
As for your women past the age of menstruation, in case you do not know, their waiting period is three months, and those who have not menstruated as well. As for those who are pregnant, their waiting	وَالَّتِي يَتَسَنَّ مِنْ الْمَحِيضِ مِنْ نِسَائِكُمْ إِنْ أَرَبْتُمْ فَعِدَّتُهُنَّ ثَلَاثَةُ أَشْهُرٍ وَالَّتِي لَمْ يَحِضْنَ وَأُولَاتُ الْأَحْمَالِ أَجَلُهُنَّ أَنْ يَضَعْنَ حَمْلَهُنَّ ٣

period ends with delivery.¹ And whoever is mindful of Allah, He will make their matters easy for them.

وَمَنْ يَتَّقِ اللَّهَ يَجْعَلْ لَهُ مِنْ أَمْرِهِ
يُسْرًا ۚ

3- الْمُضَافُ إِلَى مَعْرِفَةِ - nouns linked with definite nouns:

The possessive phrase is a combination of two nouns in which the first noun is owned by or in possession of the second noun. The construction is said to be:

الْمُرَكَّبُ الْإِضَافِي

Examples from Quran:

نَارُ اللَّهِ	Allah's fire/Fire of Allah
رَسُولُ اللَّهِ	Allah's Prophet
نَصْرُ اللَّهِ	Allah's Help
حَدِيثُ الْجُنُودِ	The story of the armies
حِزْبُ الشَّيْطَانِ	The group of satans
صَاحِبُ الْحُوتِ	The companion of the fish
يَوْمُ الْقَضَايِ	The Day of Decision

In English the possession is denoted by apostrophe “s” or by the use of the word “of”.

Example:

رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

The messenger of Allah or Allah’s messenger.

The two components of the construction are:

1- الْمُضَافُ

2- الْمُضَافُ إِلَيْهِ

1- الْمُضَافُ -the first noun is called al-mudaaf (the possessed). It will always be an indefinite (common) noun and will never have the article ال or tanween with it.

When the mudaaf is attached to a definite(maarifa’) mudaaf ilah it will be considered definite too. For example:

بَيْتُ اللَّهِ

House of Allah or Allah’s house

Note that the word Allah is definite mudaaf ilah in the above example therefore the mudaaf

بيت which is indefinite will be considered definite too and is called

الْمُضَافُ إِلَى مَعْرِفَةٍ

More examples of definite construction with singular mudaaf:

Examples of معرفة construction, مضاف nouns as واحد			
Hamid's book	كِتَابُ حَامِدٍ	Zaid's book	كِتَابُ زَيْدٍ
Zaid's wealth	مَالُ زَيْدٍ	Khalid's house	بَيْتُ خَالِدٍ
Key of the door	مِفْتَاحُ الْبَابِ	water of the sea	مَاءُ الْبَحْرِ
the light of the moon	ضَوْءُ الْقَمَرِ	hand of the boy	يَدُ الْوَلَدِ
the Masjid's door	بَابُ الْمَسْجِدِ	house of the man	بَيْتُ الرَّجُلِ
disbeliever's garden	جَنَّةُ الْكَافِرِ	believer's jail	سَجْنُ الْمُؤْمِنِ
Allah's house	بَيْتُ اللَّهِ	fear of Allah	خَوْفُ اللَّهِ
Allah's messenger	رَسُولُ اللَّهِ	rope of Allah	حَبْلُ اللَّهِ
Allah's favour	نِعْمَةُ اللَّهِ	path of Allah	سَبِيلُ اللَّهِ
the anger of Allah	غَضَبُ اللَّهِ	protection of Allah	أَمَانُ اللَّهِ

If the mudaaf is a dual or plural noun the “noon” of that word will be dropped while making the idaafa construction.

واحد / جمع مكسر	مثلي	جمع مذكر سالم
كِتَابٌ ← كِتَابٌ	كِتَابَانِ ← كِتَابَا	مُسْلِمُونَ ← مُسْلِمُو
جَنَّةٌ ← جَنَّةٌ	يَدَانِ ← يَدَا	مُسَافِرُونَ ← مُسَافِرُو
أَيْتٌ ← أَيْتٌ	أَيْتَانِ ← أَيْتَا	مُعَلِّمُونَ ← مُعَلِّمُو
أَبْوَابٌ ← أَبْوَابٌ	فَلَمَانِ ← فَلَمَا	مُعَلِّمَاتٌ ← مُعَلِّمَاتٌ

Examples from the Quran:

“They said, nay both his hands are stretched out”.	قَالُوا بَلْ يَدَاهُ مَبْسُوطَتَانِ
So We made it (this event) a deterrent punishment for those who were present and those who succeeded them and a lesson for those who are God-fearing.	فَجَعَلْنَاهَا نَكَالًا لِّمَا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهَا وَمَا خَلْفَهَا وَمَوْعِظَةً لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ ٦٦
O children of Israel! ¹ Remember My favours upon you. Fulfil your covenant	يَبْنَئِ إِسْرَائِيلَ أَذْكُرُوا نِعْمَتِيَ الَّتِي أَنْعَمْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَأَوْفُوا بِعَهْدِي أَوْفِ بِعَهْدِكُمْ وَإِيَّيَ فَآرْهَبُونَ ٤٠

and I will fulfil Mine, and stand in awe of Me 'alone'.	
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المُضَافُ إِلَيْهِ -the second noun is called al-mudaaf ilah (possesser)
It is generally (not always) a proper noun or is specified by prefixing ال. it will always have a kasrah to its last letter.

المركب الإضافي Can be nakirah or maarifa' construction. Most of the time it is maarifa'.

Examples:

When it is nakirah(common) construction:

Note that the mudaaf ilahi is nakirah(common) in all examples too.

Examples in which المُضَافُ إِلَيْهِ is a common noun:

﴿إِنَّهُ لَقَوْلُ رَسُولٍ كَرِيمٍ﴾

“This (Qur’an) is certainly *the word of an honored messenger.*” (69:40)

﴿وَجَزَاءُ سَيِّئَةٍ سَيِّئَةٌ مِثْلُهَا﴾

“*And the requital of an evil is an evil similar to it.*” (42:40)

﴿فَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ خَيْرًا يَرَهُ﴾

“*So whoever does good equivalent in weight, even to a small particle, will see it.*” (99:7)

Examples of idaafa construction with pronouns:

- المُضَافِ إِلَيْهِ can also be in the form of a pronoun. However the pronoun will not bear *kasrah* (ـِ) on it.

Examples:

﴿وَلَأَتِمَّ نِعْمَتِي عَلَيْكُمْ﴾

“So that I may complete *My favor* on you.” (2:150)

﴿مَا أَغْنَى عَنْهُ مَالُهُ وَمَا كَسَبَ﴾

“*His wealth* and that which he earned will not save him.” (111:2)

﴿وَاللَّهُ وَلِيُّهَا وَعَلَى اللَّهِ فَلْيَتَوَكَّلِ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ﴾

“While Allah was *their Guardian*. And on Allah then, let the believers (put their) trust.” (3:122)

﴿وَإِنْ تَصْبِرُوا وَتَتَّقُوا لَا يَضُرُّكُمْ كَيْدُهُمْ شَيْئًا﴾

“But if you are patient and guard yourselves, *their plot* will not harm you in anything.” (3:120)

Examples of إِضَائِي construction from the Quran:

Allah's book	[2:101] كِتَابُ اللَّهِ
Allah's messenger	[4:157] رَسُولُ اللَّهِ
Allah's mercy	[30:50] رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ
The path of Allah.	[2:154] سَبِيلُ اللَّهِ
Establisher of the Salaat	[14:40] مُقِيمُ الصَّلَاةِ
Knower of the unseen	[6:73] عَالِمُ الْغَيْبِ
Fire of Hell	[9:68] نَارُ جَهَنَّمَ
The path of the wrong doers.	[6:55] سَبِيلُ الْمُجْرِمِينَ
Allah's hand (Allah's help).	[3:73] يَدُ اللَّهِ
Allah's land.	[4:97] أَرْضُ اللَّهِ
The signs of Rahman.	[19:58] آيَاتُ الرَّحْمَنِ
The day of resurrection.	[38:16] يَوْمُ الْحِسَابِ
Daughters of the brother	[4:23] بَنَاتُ الْأَخِ
Signs of the merciful	[19:58] آيَاتُ الرَّحْمَنِ
Allah's land	[4:97] أَرْضُ اللَّهِ
Allah's she camel	[7:73] نَاقَةُ اللَّهِ
People of paradise	[2:82] أَصْحَابُ الْجَنَّةِ
People of the fire	[2:81] أَصْحَابُ النَّارِ
Lord of the havens and earth	[44:7] رَبُّ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ

NOTE:

- ♦ If the demonstrative noun (اسْمُ الإِشَارَةِ) comes in a possessive sentence it will come after the possessive phrase.

Examples:

﴿ قَالَ إِنِّي أُرِيدُ أَنْ أُنكِحَكَ إِحْدَى ابْنَتَي هَاتَيْنِ ﴾

“He said, ‘I intend to marry you to one of *these two daughters of mine*.’” (28:27)

﴿ أَذْهَبُوا بِقَمِيصِي هَذَا ﴾

“Go with *this shirt of mine*.” (12:93)