



Al-Mantiq

Lesson 18

The Reflection Process (2)

(العملية التفكير)

The intellectual movement between the known and unknown is called reflection or thinking.

The Reflection Process

In the reflection process, the intellect moves through five stages:

- Facing the problem.
- Understanding the nature of the problem.
- First movement of the intellect from the problem to the preserved information.

• Second movement of the intellect amongst the already known things to find those which can help.

- Third movement of the intellect from the known things which were able to synthesize, towards the solution.

The last three stages are called the **reflection or thinking**.

With this faculty, the human mind moves immediately from what is known to that which is unknown. This is the meaning of “**intuition**”. In reality, this kind of intuition is a kind of spiritual inspiration [*ilhām*]. For this reason, **intuitive propositions are included amongst the axioms**.

❖ The intuitive propositions are included amongst the axioms because they are obtained in just one movement of intellect, from known to the unknown.

❖ A preposition or statement can be axiom for a man and the same preposition or statement can be reflective for another person and this is only because the first person has the intuitive faculty and the second does not.