



Al-Mantiq

Lesson 21

The Semiotics (2)

(مباحث الألفاظ)

There is no doubt that the logician does not fulfill his basic purposes except through meanings; yet the logician cannot do without a study of the vocal expressions (ألفاظ) which convey those meanings.

Logic is a general science that is not associated with any particular language. Nonetheless, there might be an occasion to study things which are particular to the language being used by this logician.

The logician has another need regarding this study which is related to himself and himself alone. This need is far greater than the first. In reality, it is probably the actual reason for including semiotics in the study of logic. We will explain this by first offering a useful introduction.

There are four modes of existence: Two of them are actual modes of existence; while two of them are only contractual;

- 1) External existence
- 2) Mental existence
- 3) Vocal existence
- 4) Written existence