

Section One

The Proper Name (العَلَم)

By its original coinage, the proper name signifies a specific person, place or thing, as 'مَكَّة'. It can be improvised without being taken from anything. Or it can be transferred (مَنْقُول) from a concrete noun (إِسْمُ ذَاتٍ), as 'أَسَدٌ' (lion) or an abstract noun (إِسْمٌ مَعْنَى), as 'فَضْلٌ' (generosity) or a verb. Also, one type of proper noun is due to common usage (العَلَمُ بِالْغَلْبَةِ), as 'أُمُّ بَنِينَ' (mother of sons).

