



## بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

### Lesson 1

## Radical, Root, Pattern + Broken Plural

Most Arabic words can be reduced to a root, which, as a rule, consists of three consonants. They are called *Radicals*. This trilateral root expresses a certain conceptual content.

This conceptual content is specified by short and long vowels between the consonants and by prefixes and suffixes regarding the part of speech (verb, noun, adjective) as well as regarding the grammatical category (tense, mood, number, case, etc.).

For Example: The meaning "to write" is inherent in the root K-T-B (ك-ت-ب), the meaning "to go" in the root DH-H-B (ذ-ه-ب) and the meaning "to drink" in the root SH-R-B (ش-ر-ب).

Other Examples:

<i>KaTaBa</i>	كَتَبَ	He wrote
<i>KaTiB</i>	كَاتِب	Writer
<i>KiTaB</i>	كِتَاب	Book
<i>KuTuB</i>	كُتُب	Books
<i>maKTUB</i>	مَكْتُوب	Written
<i>maKTaba</i>	مَكْتَبَة	Library, bookshop

The Arab grammarians use patterns, which they represent by ف for R1 (1st Radical), ع for R2 (2nd Radical) and ل for R3 (3rd Radical) in order to describe the numerous word forms systematically.

Some Patterns:

كَتَبَ / ذَهَبَ ← فَعَلَ  
كَتَبَ / ذَهَبَ ← فَعَلَ



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فَعِيل ← كَبِير / صَغِير  
فِعَال ← كِبَار / صِغَار  
أَفْعَال ← أَقْلَام

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