



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Lesson 17

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الإضافة

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Idāfa is mostly used to indicate possession or belonging and basically entails putting one noun after another and the second noun specifies more precisely the nature of the first noun. In forms of Arabic which mark grammatical case, this second noun must be in the genitive case. The construction is typically equivalent to the English construction "(noun) of (noun)".

The Genitive Construction (*Idafa*) (المضاف والمضاف إليه):

the house of the man « بيتُ الرَّجُلِ
house of a man « بيتُ رَجُلٍ

Idāfa can also denote membership or a characteristic feature. Such as:

a silver ring « خاتمُ فِضَّةٍ
the symbol of a deep friendship « رمزُ صِدَاقَةٍ عميقة
whose house is this? « بيتُ مَنْ هَذَا؟

Word combinations like "a house of the man", "a member of the Arab delegation" etc. are expressed by means of prepositions.

a house of the man « بيتُ من بيوتِ الرَّجُلِ
a member of the Arab delegation « عضوٌ من أعضاء الوفد العربي

All terms except the last in a genitive construction consisting of several terms (genitive chain) are in the construct state.

صِحَّةُ سياسةِ حكومةِ البلدِ «

The appropriateness of the policy of the government of the country

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