

L57

The Superlative Noun (إسم التفضيل)

... the superlative noun is only derived from primary verbs. It is used in one of the following manners:

- **Followed by a particle and a genitive noun;**

عليُّ أفضلُ من غيره (Ali is more virtuous than others)

- **Attached to an indefinite noun by *Idhaafah*;**

أبوذر أصدقُ رجلٍ (Abuzarr is the most truthful of men)

- **The definite article attached to it;**

القاضيُّ أحمدُ الأعلَمُ (Judge Ahmad is the most learned)

- **Attached to a definite noun;**

عليُّ أفضلُ الناسِ (Ali is the most virtuous of people)

Whenever the superlative noun is used in the first or second method, it will remain on the pattern of the masculine whether that which is described is feminine, dual or plural, as in:

زيدٌ أفضلُ رجلٍ، هنداٌ أفضلُ امرأةٍ، الزيدانُ أفضلُ رجلينِ

... but in the third and fourth manner, there must be agreement;

زيدٌ الأفضَلُ هنداُ الفُضلىُّ الزيدانُ الأفضلانِ

Note:

The two words 'خير' and 'شَرٌّ' usually are used as the contraction of أخيرَ and أشَرَّ.

Section Five

The Noun of Exaggeration (إسم المبالغة)

This noun indicates that the described person or thing has an attribute to excess, as 'علامة', (Abundant in knowledge). When derived from the three letter primary

verb, its pattern is known by usage, such as:

فُعُولٌ (كَذَبَ كُذُوبٌ)؛ فَعِيلٌ (رَحِمَ رَحِيمٌ)؛ فَعُولٌ (قَامَ قِيُومٌ)؛ فَعَالٌ (جَلَدَ جَلَادٌ)

فُعُولٌ (قُدْسٌ قُدُوسٌ)؛ مَفْعَالٌ (كَرَّ مَدْرَاژٌ)؛ مَفْعِيلٌ (نَطَقَ مِنْطِيقٌ)

But in the derivative it is often on مَفْعَال, فَعِيل or فَعَال.

Section Six

The Noun of Place (إِسْمُ الْمَكَانِ)

It is a noun that signifies the place where an action takes place, as 'مَصْنَعٌ' (factory).

In the three letter primary verb, the noun of place is on the pattern of 'مَفْعَلٌ' or

'مَفْعِلٌ'. 'مَفْعِلٌ' is used in words whose root letters are sound and the second original

letter in their present tense verb is voweled with *Kasrah*.

ضَرَبَ، يَضْرِبُ ← مَضْرِبٌ

The second pattern is used in all other instances and in the derivative, the noun of place has the same pattern as the passive participle, as 'مُسْتَقَرٌّ', 'مُجْتَمَعٌ'.

