



## *Al-Mantiq*

### Lesson 1

#### Introduction

#### **The Necessity of Logic**

Allah has created the human race with speech as part of their nature and made the human tongue a tool for speaking. Despite this, the human being needs something to erect his speech and make it sound; that tool is the knowledge of grammar and morphology. Similarly, Allah has created the human race with thinking as part of its essential nature; yet we find that people commit a great number of mistakes in their thinking. Many have mentioned that the science of logic is a tool that helps human beings correct their thoughts. If you would say: Some study logic but still make mistakes, we would say: This is because they have not become sufficiently proficient in that science and have not taken heed of its principles and make errors in their application of logic.

Logic is defined as: "A canonical tool. If one takes heed of this tool, his mind will be immunized from error." Now, look at the word "tool" in this definition. Logic is a division of the practical sciences used as an instrumental science to obtain a specific purpose. As such, this science is defined as a scale or measure and the custodian of sciences.

The word canonical means rules, and the science of logic gives rules and laws; if one follows these rules, his mind will be immunized from making mistakes.

The third thing in the definition of logic is to take heed of the rules; if one knows the rules but does not pay heed to them, they will make mistakes in thinking. So, it is mandatory to observe the rules.