

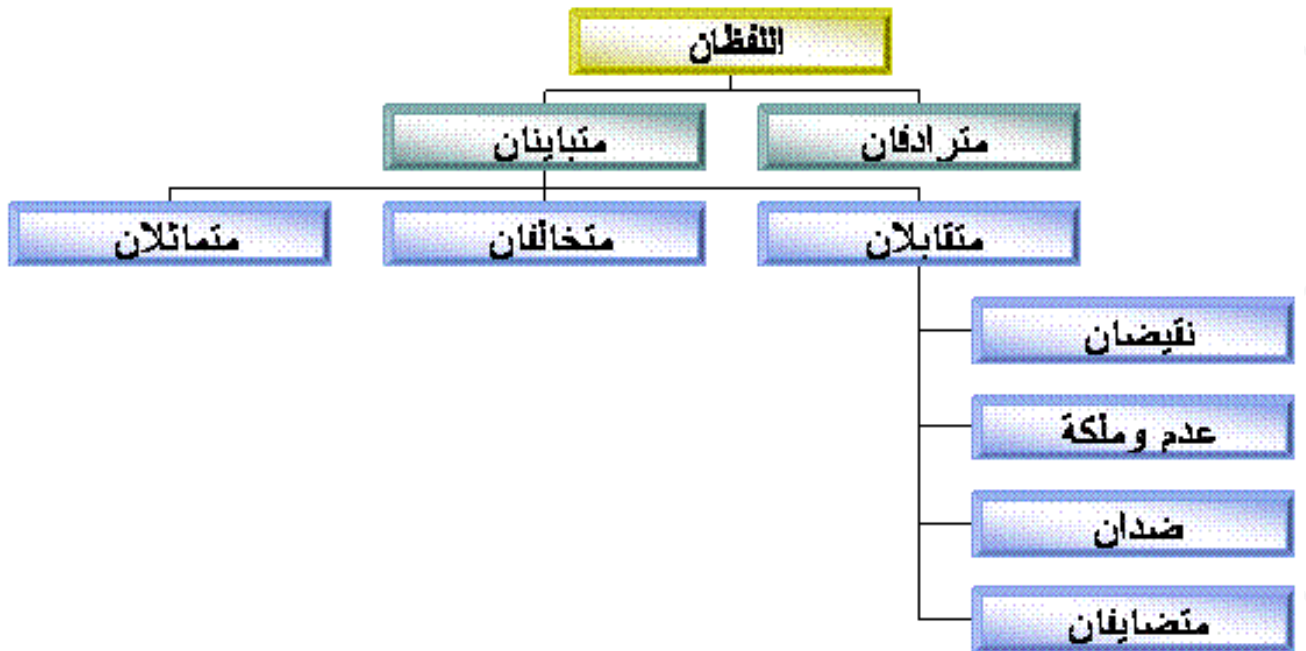


بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Al-Mantiq

Lesson 44

The Divisions of Words (3)
The Divisions of Opposition
تقسيمات الألفاظ (أقسام التقابل)



If the opposition is between an existing and a non-existing, the contradiction is either a "تَنَافُضٌ" or a "تقابل ملکہ و عدم ملکہ".

Divisions of Opposition

There are four kinds of opposition:

1) Contradictories (تقابل النقيضين), or the contradiction of negation and affirmation. For example: "human" and "not-human,"

One contradictory is existing and the other is non-existent. It is axiomatic that they cannot be predicated on the same thing at the same time, nor can they be simultaneously denied of the same thing. There is no middle term between contradictories.



2) The opposition of privation and possession (تقابل ملكه و عدم ملكه).

The opposition of privation and possession is a relationship where one contradictory is existing and the other is non-existent; they cannot be simultaneously predicated of the same thing, but they can be simultaneously denied.

For example:

Sight is a kind of possession, and blindness is a kind of privation. It is not possible to speak of blindness outside of the context of sight, because blindness is not merely the total absence of sight; it is the absence of sight in something which should normally be able to see.

This opposition is different from "تناقض" because the two concepts can be simultaneously denied of the same thing.