



Al-Mantiq

Lesson 14

The Types of Knowledge (1)

Axiomatic Knowledge and Reflective Knowledge

(العلم الضروري و العلم النظرى)

We can divide knowledge into two divisions: **Axiomatic Knowledge** (العلم الضرورى) **and Reflective Knowledge** (العلم النظرى).

The knowledge of some affairs, such as existence, can be obtained without reflection or thought. All that is needed, is for a person to turn his soul towards something. This is known as **necessary or axiomatic knowledge**.

There are other affairs, however, which the human being cannot grasp easily. He must make recourse to reflection and intellectual work to move from known to unknown. This is what we call **reflective or acquired knowledge**.