

FUNDAMENTALS OF CLASSICAL ARABIC

UNIT 5: TRANSCRIPT FOR DAY 1

The Overview

Our sessions in unit 5 are centered on the concept of application. Unit 5 is logically directly connected to Unit 1 and one doesn't need to have the pre-requisite understanding of Units 2, 3 and 4 to be able to take advantage of the material covered in it. Day one is a brief review and application of the concept of إضافة .

In addition to the basics you already learned in Unit 1 (ARA 201) here are the following new concepts to note about إضافة:

- The إضافة can serve as a concise rendition of a longer phrase. 'The religion of Allah' connotes a religion sanctioned by and attributed to Allah. This meaning occurs in addition to the obvious possession indicating that the religion is owned by Him. 'The chests of a nation' may connote the sentiments and even motives of a nation. The deeper connotations in an إضافة can be explored through the ancient usage of the Arabs.
- You have already learned that when the مضاف إليه is common, the مضاف is common. Additionally, whenever a common مضاف إليه occurs, the listener is to expect more information about the مضاف إليه . This additional information can occur in the form of an adjective or even a full scale sentence, but you must always look for it. On the other hand, when the مضاف إليه is proper you may or may not find additional information. Here are some examples within the 30th جزء where the red indicates the additional information required by the common مضاف إليه :

مثقال ذرّة شرّاً

مثقال ذرّة خيراً

من شر حاسد إذا حسد

شر غاسق إذا وقب

- The exception to the above is a minor issue but should be mentioned none-the-less. When the إضافة as a whole serves the role of an adjective to something else, no additional information may be required because *it* is the additional information. For instance:

سَيَصِلُ نَارًا ذَاتَ لَهَبٍ . In this case, ذَاتَ لَهَبٍ is an إضافة with a common مضاف إليه. Despite that, there is no additional information about لَهَبٍ because the entire إضافة, that is, ذَاتَ لَهَبٍ is itself an adjective of نَارًا.

- مُضَافٌ إِلَيْهِ and مضاف can actually communicate adjective like descriptive meanings sometimes. 'Old of age' can mean one possessing old age or one being very old in terms of age. Similarly, 'Hard of heart' can mean one possessing a hard heart.
- The following Isms are special cases of light versus heavy, because the light version of each adds a letter to the word instead of just an ending sound.

| Heavy Version | Light Version |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| أَبٌ أَبًا أَبٍ | أَبُو أَبَا أَبِي |
| أَخٌ أَخًا أَخٍ | أَخُو أَخَا أَخِي |
| فَمٌ فَمًا فَمٍ | فَمٌ فَمٌ فَمٌ OR فَمٌ فَمٌ فَمٌ |
| هَنْ هَنًا هَنِ | هَنْ هَنْ هَنْ OR هَنْ هَنْ هَنْ |
| NO HEAVY USAGE | ذُو ذَا ذِي |
| | |
| | |

The pairs and plurals of the above should also be glanced over:

Singular R/N/J

Pair R/N/J

Plural R/N/J

أَبٌ أَبَاءً

أَبَوَانِ أَبَوَيْنِ أَبَوِينَ

أَبَاءُ أَبَاءَ أَبَاءِ

أَخٌ أَخًا

أَخَانِ أَخَيْنِ أَخِينَ

أَخُوهُ إِخْوَةً إِخْوَةً

فَمٌ فَمًا

فَمَانِ فَمَيْنِ فَمِينَ

أَقْوَاهُ أَقْوَاهَا أَقْوَاهِ

- The special مضاف cases we learned in the first course on page 20 create phrases that don't necessitate 'of' in translation. It is important to note that technically each of the words mentioned in that list are to be considered اسم and not حرف. This is so despite the fact that in translation, they may seem like prepositions. The proof that those words are in fact اسم is that you can find them with a حرف of جر before them. As a set principle, a حرف الجر cannot be preceded by a حرف الجر.
- There is one usage of إضافة that happens to be an important feature of Arabic but won't be covered in this unit. Just know that sometimes a phrase involving numbers is constructed like an إضافة.

Finally, since we are studying إضافة and the next lesson is the حرف الجر , it is a good idea to take a comprehensive look at the endings that may indicate the جرّ status:

1. كِتَابٍ or كِتَابِ (i or in)
2. مَسْجِدَيْنِ or مَسْجِدَيْ (ay or ayni)
3. مُهَاجِرَيْنِ or مُهَاجِرِي (ee or eena)
4. مَسَاجِدَ , إِبْرَاهِيمَ (a)
5. قَبْلُ (u)
6. عَيْسَى (aa)
7. Any sound if at the end of a non-flexible اسم .

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