



IMAM SADIQ peace be upon him
ONLINE SEMINARY

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Summary

Arabic Grammar (Nahw)

Lesson 90: الأسماء العاملة (الصفة المشبهة واسم التفضيل)

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Governing and Its Conditions

The Adjectival Noun governs like its intransitive verb. It may also govern a single object like a transitive verb, even if its own verb is intransitive. Its accusative noun is called "the object-like element" (*al-shabāh bi al-maf'ūl*) if it is definite, and "the specifying element" (*al-tamyīz*) if it is indefinite.

Its governing is subject to the same conditions as the governing of the Active Participle, whether it is preceded by "*al-*" or not. Its object cannot be placed before it, unless the object is a prepositional phrase or an adverb.

It is permissible to annex it to its object without restriction if it is not preceded by "*al-*". However, if it is preceded by "*al-*", it cannot be annexed except if the object, or what the object is annexed to, is also preceded by "*al-*".



The Elative (Noun of Preference - *Ism al-Tafḍīl*)

Definition: It is a noun derived from a verb on the pattern "*afʿal*" for masculine and "*fuʿlā*" for feminine, indicating that its subject possesses more of a quality than something else, where both share the root of that quality.

Governing

The Elative assigns the nominative case to its subject, which is most often an implied pronoun. Therefore, it is not subject to any of the governing conditions required for its counterparts (other derived nouns).

Forms and Rulings

The Elative has three forms:

a) Being bare (without "**al-**") and not being annexed:

1. In this form, it must be singular and masculine, and the particle "*min*" (from) must be used before the thing being compared.
2. Both "*min*" and the thing being compared may be omitted together.
3. Nothing may separate it from the Elative except its own object.