



IMAM SADIQ peace be upon him
ONLINE SEMINARY

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Summary

Arabic Grammar (Nahw)

Lesson 94: افعال المدح والذم

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The Seventh Objective: Non-Requestive Performative Verbs

Verbs are either declarative, like the past and present tense verbs, or performative.

Performative verbs are of two types:

Requestive, like the verb of command and prohibition,

And non-requestive, like verbs of praise, blame, and wonder.

Declarative and requestive performative verbs are studied in morphology (sarf), while non-requestive ones are studied in syntax (nahw) due to the presence of syntactic investigations within them.

Verbs of Praise and Blame

Definition: They are fixed verbs coined to perform praise or blame.

They are:

Praise: «نِعْمَ» and «حَبَّ»

Blame: «يُسُّ» and «سَاءَ»



Constituents

The sentence of praise or blame is composed of three constituents:

- a) The verb of praise or blame.
- b) The subject.
- c) The entity specified with praise or blame.

Rulings

1. These verbs are fixed, singular, and always masculine.
It is permissible to attach the feminine 'tā' to them if their subject or the specified entity is an apparent feminine noun, such as «نعمت البنت فاطمة».
2. The subject is always definite, and the specified entity must be definite or a qualified indefinite. It may be omitted in speech if understood.

Syntactic Analysis

They differed regarding the analysis of the specified entity. Some held that it is a postponed subject (mubtada'), and the preceding sentence is its preposed predicate (khabar).

Others held that it is the predicate (khabar) of an omitted subject (mubtada'), which is a pronoun referring back to the subject.

According to the first view, the whole becomes a single nominal sentence.

According to the second, it becomes two sentences: one verbal and one nominal.

Forms of the Subject

The subject of these verbs - other than 'habba' - is of two forms:

1. The apparent noun, which is of several types:
 - a) That which is made definite by the generic 'al-'



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- b) That which is annexed to a noun made definite by 'al-'
 - c) That which is annexed to a noun which is annexed to a noun made definite by 'al-'
2. The covert singular masculine pronoun which refers to a noun after it in the accusative case as a specification (tamyīz), agreeing with the specified entity in gender and number.
As for the subject of «حَبَّ», it is «ذَا», which is always mentioned after it, connected in all forms.

Point of Attention

The form "fa'ula" may be used for praise or blame. In that case, all the rules applicable to them apply, except that its subject is allowed to be devoid of 'al-'.