



IMAM SADIQ peace be upon him
ONLINE SEMINARY

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Sharh Ibn Aqil – Lesson 92

Summary

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Topic: When Can the Khabar Precede the Muftada?

In classical Arabic grammar, the general principle dictates that the predicate (khabar) comes after the subject (muftada). However, certain conditions allow for the reversal of this order, provided that no ambiguity or confusion arises. This flexibility in sentence structure is a significant feature of Arabic, demonstrating its depth and versatility.

Types of Khabar in Relation to the Muftada

There are three types of predicates (khabar) concerning their position relative to the muftada:

1. The khabar can either precede or follow the muftada, depending on context and clarity.
2. The khabar must follow the muftada in most cases, following the normative order.
3. The khabar must precede the muftada in specific instances where other grammatical or stylistic factors require this arrangement.

The Principle Behind Khabar Following the Muftada

The typical structure of an Arabic nominal sentence places the subject (muftada) first, followed by the predicate (khabar). This order maintains



clarity, preventing potential confusion about the sentence's subject and ensuring coherence in communication.

Permissibility of Preceding the Mubtada

Despite the normative structure, advancing the khabar before the mubtada is permissible as long as it does not result in confusion or ambiguity. Examples of such permissible constructions include:

١. قائمٌ زيدٌ

٢. قائمٌ/قام أبوه زيدٌ

٣. أبوه منطلق زيد

٤. في الدار زيد

٥. عندك عمرو

Diverging Opinions

There are differing viewpoints between the Kufis and the Basris regarding these examples. While the Kufis reject some constructions, citing ambiguity, scholars like Ibn Aqil criticize their position, supporting the flexibility of word order in these cases.

Poetic Evidence

Arabic poetry provides numerous instances where the khabar precedes the mubtada, reinforcing the validity of such structures. Examples from classical poetry include:

- مشنوءٌ من يشنؤك

- قد ثكلت أمّه من كنت واحده

- إلى ملك ما أمّه من محارب