Introduction to Arabic Grammar

Lesson 3

Particles That Resemble Verbs الحروف المشبّهة بالفعل

- These are called اَلْحُرُوفُ الْمُشَبَّهَةُ بِالْفِعْلِ because like اَلْفِعْلُ الْمُتَعَدِّيْ, they also govern two words.

- These حُرُوفٌ appear before a مُبْتَدَأٌ and a خَبَرٌ (جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ).

Effect: Such a particle causes the مُبْتَدَأٌ to be in a state of نَصْبٌ which is then known as اِسْمُ إِنَّ (or خَبَرُ أَنَّ and so on) and causes the خَبَرٌ to be in a state of رَفْعٌ which is then known as خَبَرُ إِنَّ اِسْمُ أَنَّ (or أَنَّ and so on).

Meaning		Example

Particles That Resemble Verbs الحروف المشبّهة بالفعل

		Meaning	Example	
1.	إِنَّ	certainly, verily, indeed	إِنَّ اللهَ عَلِيْمٌ	Verily Allah is All-Knowing.
2.	أَنَّ	that	أَعْرِفُ أَنَّ الْاِمْتِحَانَ قَرِيْبٌ	I know that the examination is near.
3.	كَأَنَّ	as if	كَأَنَّ الْبَيْتَ جَدِيْدٌ	It is as if the house is new.
4.	لٰكِنَّ	but, however	اَلْبَيْتُ جَدِيْدٌ لٰكِنَّ الْأَثَاثَ قَدِيْمٌ	The house is new but the furniture is old.
5.	لَيْتَ	if only, I wish	لَيْتَ الشَّبَابَ عَائِدٌ	I wish youth would return.
6.	لَعَلَّ	maybe, hopefully, perhaps	لَعَلَّ الْاِمْتِحَانَ سَهْلٌ	Hopefully, the examination will be easy.

عَلِيْمٌ   اللهَ   إِنَّ   Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing.

3.	كَأَنَّ	as if	كَأَنَّ الْبَيْتَ جَدِيدٌ	It is as if the house is new.
4.	لٰكِنَّ	but, however	الْبَيْتُ جَدِيدٌ لٰكِنَّ الْأَثَاثَ قَدِيمٌ	The house is new but the furniture is old.
5.	لَيْتَ	if only, I wish	لَيْتَ الشَّبَابَ عَائِدٌ	I wish youth would return.
6.	لَعَلَّ	maybe, hopefully, perhaps	لَعَلَّ الْإِمْتِحَانَ سَهْلٌ	Hopefully, the examination will be easy.

Sentence Analysis:

| عَلِيمٌ | اللهَ | إِنَّ | Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing. |
| خَبَرُ إِنَّ | اِسْمُ إِنَّ | اَلْحَرْفُ الْمُشَبَّهُ بِالْفِعْلِ | |

Particles That Resemble Verbs الحروف المشبّهة بالفعل

عَلِيْمٌ اللهَ إِنَّ   Indeed, Allah is All-Knowing.

Notes:

1. Difference between إِنَّ and أَنَّ:

   a. إِنَّ is generally used at the beginning of a sentence.

   أَنَّ is generally used in the middle of a sentence.

   b. Sometimes, إِنَّ appears in the middle of a sentence. This happens in the following two cases:

   i. When it is used after a word with root letters ق – و – ل.

      e.g.   يَقُوْلُ إِنَّهَا بَقَرَةٌ صَفْرَاءُ   He says, indeed, it is a yellow cow.

   ii. When it is at the beginning of a صِلَةٌ.[12]
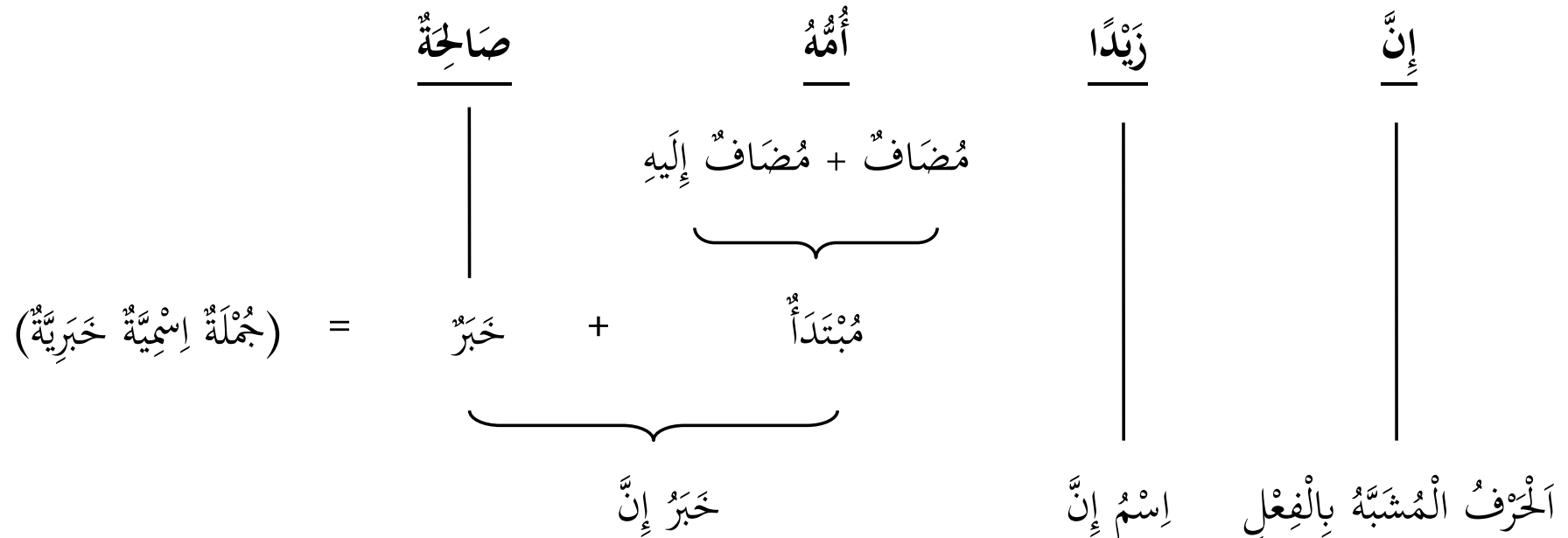
      e.g.   زُرْتُ الَّذِيْ إِنِّيْ أَحْتَرِمُهُ   I visited the one whom I respect.

Particles That Resemble Verbs الحروف المشبّهة بالفعل

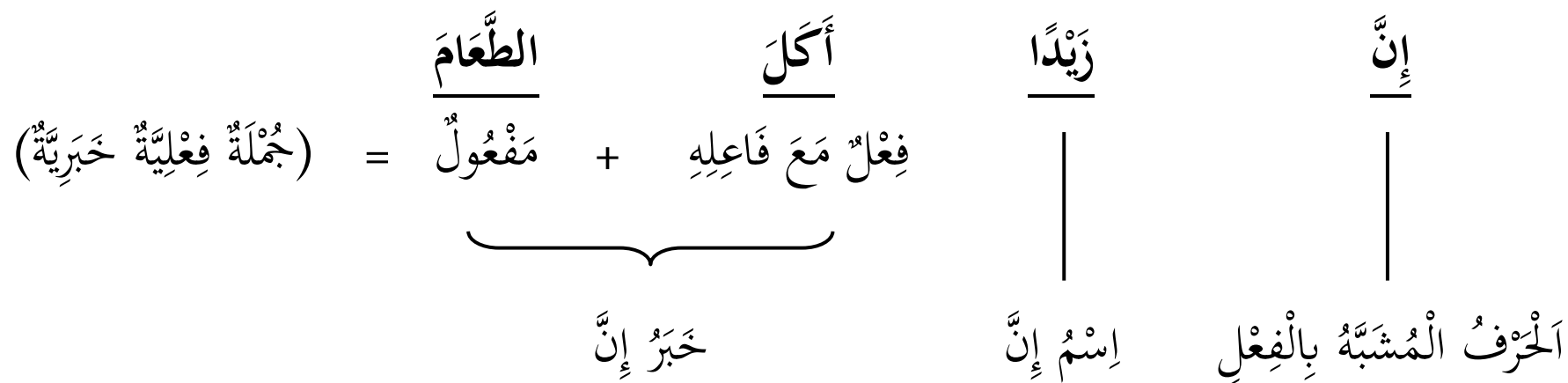2. The خَبَرٌ can be a complete sentence.

Example 1: إِنَّ زَيْدًا أُمُّهُ صَالِحَةٌ Indeed, Zayd's mother is pious.

صَالِحَةٌ   أُمُّهُ   زَيْدًا   إِنَّ

مُضَافٌ + مُضَافٌ إِلَيْهِ

(جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ) = خَبَرٌ + مُبْتَدَأٌ

خَبَرُ إِنَّ

اَلْحَرْفُ الْمُشَبَّهُ بِالْفِعْلِ   اِسْمُ إِنَّ

Particles That Resemble Verbs الْحروف المشبّهة بالفعل

(جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ) = خَبَرٌ + مُبْتَدَأٌ

اَلْحَرفُ الْمُشَبَّهُ بِالْفِعْلِ   اِسْمُ إِنَّ   خَبَرُ إِنَّ

Example 2:   إِنَّ زَيْدًا أَكَلَ الطَّعَامَ   Indeed, Zayd ate the food.

إِنَّ   زَيْدًا   أَكَلَ   الطَّعَامَ

(جُمْلَةٌ فِعْلِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ) = مَفْعُولٌ + فِعْلٌ مَعَ فَاعِلِهِ

خَبَرُ إِنَّ

اَلْحَرْفُ الْمُشَبَّهُ بِالْفِعْلِ   اِسْمُ إِنَّ

اَلْحَرْفُ الْمُشَبَّهُ بِالْفِعْلِ   اِسْمُ إِنَّ   خَبَرُ إِنَّ   فِعْلٌ مَعَ فَاعِلِهِ   +   مَفْعُولٌ   =   (جُمْلَةٌ فِعْلِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ)

Particles That Resemble Verbs الحروف المشبّهة بالفعل

3. If the خَبَرٌ is (جَارٌّ وَمَجْرُورٌ), then the خَبَرٌ will appear first and the اِسْمٌ second.

   e.g.   إِنَّ إِلَيْنَا إِيَابَهُمْ   Indeed, to us is their return.

إِيَابَهُمْ	**إِلَيْنَا**	**إِنَّ**
مُضَافٌ + مُضَافٌ إِلَيْهِ	جَارٌّ وَ مَجْرُورٌ	
اِسْمُ إِنَّ (مُؤَخَّر)	خَبَرُ إِنَّ (مُقَدَّم)	اَلْحَرْفُ الْمُشَبَّهُ بِالْفِعْلِ

Particles That Resemble Verbs الحروف المشبّهة بالفعل

4. When مَا الْكَافَّةُ is joined to any of these حُرُوفٌ, their effect is cancelled.

 e.g.   إِنَّمَا إِلٰهُكُمْ إِلٰهٌ وَّاحِدٌ   Your god is only one god.

Note: In this example, the meaning has also changed to "only."

5. إِنَّ by itself conveys emphasis. Sometimes, لَامُ التَّأْكِيْدِ can be added before the خَبَرٌ to convey even more emphasis.

 e.g.   إِنَّكَ لَرَسُوْلُ اللهِ   Indeed, you are the messenger of Allah.

        إِنِّي لَأَعْرِفُ أَخَاكَ   Indeed, I know your brother.

Kaana and its Sisters كَان وأخواتُها

- فِعْلٌ نَاقِصٌ is called نَاقِصٌ (incomplete/defective) because even though it is a فِعْلٌ لَازِمٌ, it needs two *ma'mools* (مَعْمُولَيْنِ). The sentence remains incomplete with one مَعْمُولٌ.

  e.g.   كَانَ زَيْدٌ   Zayd was (the sentence remains incomplete).

- These أَفْعَال enter upon a مُبْتَدَأٌ and a خَبَرٌ.

Effect: They give رَفْعٌ to the مُبْتَدَأٌ which is then known as اِسْمُ كَانَ (or اِسْمُ صَارَ and so on) and نَصْبٌ to the خَبَرٌ which is then known as خَبَرُ كَانَ (or خَبَرُ صَارَ and so on).

فِعْلٌ نَاقِصٌ	Meaning		Example
1. كَانَ	was	كَانَ الْبَيْتُ نَظِيْفًا	The house was clean.

Kaana and its Sisters كان وأخواتُها

فِعْلٌ نَاقِصٌ	Meaning	Example	
1. كَانَ	was	كَانَ الْبَيْتُ نَظِيْفًا	The house was clean.
2. صَارَ	became	صَارَ الرَّجُلُ غَنِيًّا	The man became wealthy.
3. أَصْبَحَ	happen in the morning OR became	أَصْبَحَ زَيْدٌ مَرِيْضًا أَصْبَحَ زَيْدٌ غَنِيًّا	Zayd became ill in the morning. Zayd became rich.
4. أَمْسَى	happen in the evening, became	أَمْسَى الْعَامِلُ مُتْعَبًا	The worker became tired in the evening.
5. أَضْحَى	happen at midmorning, became	أَضْحَى الْغَمَامُ كَثِيْفًا	The clouds became dense at mid morning.
6. ظَلَّ	happen during the day, became	ظَلَّ الْمَطَرُ نَازِلًا	It rained the whole day.
7. بَاتَ	happen during the night, became	بَاتَ زَيْدٌ نَائِمًا	Zayd passed the night sleeping.
8. مَا دَامَ	as long as	اِجْلِسْ مَا دَامَ زَيْدٌ جَالِسًا	Sit as long as Zayd is sitting.

5. اَلضَّحَى	happen at midmorning, became	اَلضَّحَى الْغَمَامُ كَيِّفَ	The clouds became dense at mid morning.
6. ظَلَّ	happen during the day, became	ظَلَّ الْمَطَرُ نَازِلًا	It rained the whole day.
7. بَاتَ	happen during the night, became	بَاتَ زَيْدٌ نَائِمًا	Zayd passed the night sleeping.
8. مَا دَامَ	as long as	اِجْلِسْ مَا دَامَ زَيْدٌ جَالِسًا	Sit as long as Zayd is sitting.
9. مَا زَالَ	always, continuously	مَا زَالَ زَيْدٌ مَرِيْضًا	Zayd was continuously sick.
10. مَا بَرِحَ	always, continuously	مَا بَرِحَ زَيْدٌ صَائِمًا	Zayd was always fasting.
11. مَا فَتِئَ	always, continuously	مَا فَتِئَ زَيْدٌ نَشِيْطًا	Zayd was always active.
12. مَا انْفَكَّ	always, continuously	مَا انْفَكَّ التَّاجِرُ صَادِقًا	The trader was always truthful.
13. لَيْسَ	no, not	لَيْسَ الْخَادِمُ قَوِيًّا	The servant is not strong.

Kaana and its Sisters كان وأخواتُها

<u>Sentence Analysis:</u>

The house was clean.   كَانَ   الْبَيْتُ   نَظِيْفًا

فِعْلٌ نَاقِصٌ   اِسْمُ كَانَ   خَبَرُ كَانَ

Kaana and its Sisters كَانَ وَأَحَوَاتُهَا

كَانَ الْبَيْتُ نَظِيْفًا   The house was clean.

خَبَرُ كَانَ   فِعْلٌ نَاقِصٌ   اِسْمُ كَانَ

When كَانَ is used with مُضَارِعٌ, it gives the meaning of past continuous or past habitual.

e.g.   كَانَ زَيْدٌ يَكْتُبُ   Zayd was writing/Zayd used to write.

Note: Here, the خَبَرٌ of كَانَ is a جُمْلَةٌ فِعْلِيَّةٌ. Also, note the two ways it is translated above.

Kaana and its Sisters كان وأخواتُها

The خَبَرٌ of لَيْسَ is sometimes prefixed with a بِ.

e.g. أَلَيْسَ اللهُ بِأَحْكَمِ الْحَاكِمِينَ   Is Allah not the greatest of rulers/best of judges?

If the خَبَرٌ is (جَارٌّ وَمَجْرُورٌ), then the خَبَرٌ will appear first and the مُبْتَدَأً second.

e.g.   سَحَابٌ   فِي السَّمَاءِ   كَانَ   There were clouds in the sky.
e.g.   سَحَابٌ   فِي السَّمَاءِ   كَانَ   There were clouds in the sky.
     اِسْمُ كَانَ (مُؤَخَّرٌ)   خَبَرُ كَانَ (مُقَدَّمٌ)   فِعْلٌ نَاقِصٌ
     اِسْمُ كَانَ (مُؤَخَّرٌ)   خَبَرُ كَانَ (مُقَدَّمٌ)   فِعْلٌ نَاقِصٌ

Declinable and Indeclinable Words المُعرَب والمَبنيُّ

Words are of two types with respect to changes that occur at their ends. If the end remains the same in all conditions, the word is called مَبْنِيٌّ; and if it does change, the word is called مُعْرَبٌ.

Declinable and Indeclinable Words المُعرَب والمَبنيُّ

أَنْوَاعُ الْبِنَاءِ: The conditions or states (أَحْوَالٌ) which remain unchanged at the end of مَبْنِيٌّ words are four: ضَمٌّ, فَتْحٌ, كَسْرٌ and سُكُوْنٌ. These are called أَنْوَاعُ الْبِنَاءِ.

أَنْوَاعُ الإِعْرَابِ: Those conditions or states (أَحْوَالٌ) which occur at the end of مُعْرَبٌ words are four: رَفْعٌ, نَصْبٌ, جَرٌّ, and جَزْمٌ. These are called أَنْوَاعُ الإِعْرَابِ (اَلْإِعْرَابُ for short). These changes are brought about at the end of a مُعْرَبٌ word in accordance with the requirement of the عَامِلٌ (governing word).

Declinable and Indeclinable Words المُعرَب والمَبنيُّ

<u>عَلَامَاتُ الْإِعْرَابِ – Signs of *i'raab*</u>

The *i'raab* shows in various ways. These are called عَلَامَاتُ الْإِعْرَابِ (signs of *i'raab*). The two common ones are as follows:

1. اَلْإِعْرَابُ بِالْحَرَكَةِ: These are the basic signs and are the most common. *I'raab* is shown by means of a حَرَكَةٌ i.e. ضَمَّةٌ or فَتْحَةٌ or كَسْرَةٌ or سُكُوْنٌ (which is the absence of a حَرَكَةٌ).

   e.g.   لَمْ يَضْرِبْ   رَجُلٍ   رَجُلًا   رَجُلٌ

2. اَلْإِعْرَابُ بِالْحُرُوفِ: Sometimes, the *i'raab* is shown by means of any of the حُرُوفُ عِلَّةٍ i.e. و or ا or ي.

   e.g.   أَبِيْكَ   أَبَاكَ   أَبُوْكَ

Declinable and Indeclinable Words المُعرَب والمَبنيُّ

States of *mu'rab* – حَالَاتُ الْمُعْرَبِ

As mentioned above, the conditions or states that occur at the end of مُعْرَبٌ words are four. Below, we look at them in more detail.

1. **حَالَةُ الرَّفْعِ** is the condition in which a ضَمَّةٌ or its substitute such as حَرْفُ عِلَّةٍ (و) appears at the end of a word. Such a word is said to be مَرْفُوعٌ.

    e.g.   أَبُوْ خَالِدٍ   أَخُوْكَ   أَخٌ

2. **حَالَةُ النَّصْبِ** is the condition in which a فَتْحَةٌ or its substitute such as حَرْفُ عِلَّةٍ (ا) appears at the end of a word. Such a word is said to be مَنْصُوبٌ.

    e.g.   أَبَا خَالِدٍ   أَخَاكَ   أَخًا

Declinable and Indeclinable Words المُعرَب والمَبنيُّ

3. حَالَةُ الجَرِّ is the condition in which a كَسْرَةٌ or its substitute such as (ي) حَرْفُ عِلَّةٍ appears at the end of a word. Such a word is said to be مَجْرُورٌ.

   e.g.   أَبِيْ خَالِدٍ   أَخِيْكَ   أَخٍ

4. حَالَةُ الجَزْمِ is the condition in which a سُكُوْنٌ appears at the end of a word or its substitute (ن in the case of فِعْلٌ مُضَارِعٌ) is dropped from the end. Such a word is said to be مَجْزُومٌ.

   e.g.   لَمْ يَضْرِبْ   لَمْ يَضْرِبُوْا

Note: It should be remembered that *fi'ls* can only be in the state of رَفْعٌ, نَصْبٌ or جَزْمٌ, while *isms* can only be in a state of رَفْعٌ, نَصْبٌ, or جَرٌّ.

Declinable and Indeclinable Words المُعرَب والمَبنيُّ

The difference between كَسْرٌ – فَتْحٌ – ضَمٌّ **and** كَسْرَةٌ – فَتْحَةٌ – ضَمَّةٌ

- The words كَسْرٌ – فَتْحٌ – ضَمٌّ are used to describe the states at the end of a مَبْنِيٌّ , e.g. ضَرَبَ has a فَتْحٌ at the end. It is مَبْنِيٌّ عَلَى الْفَتْحِ.

- The words كَسْرَةٌ – فَتْحَةٌ – ضَمَّةٌ are used for all other places where (ـُ), (ـَ) and (ـِ) appear.

In other words, (ـُ), (ـَ) and (ـِ) are normally called ضَمَّةٌ – فَتْحَةٌ – كَسْرَةٌ, respectively, wherever they occur except when one needs to precisely point out the end of a مَبْنِيٌّ word. Thus, one would say ضَرَبَ has a فَتْحَةٌ on (ض), a فَتْحَةٌ on (ر), and a فَتْحَةٌ on (ب), but one must say (ضَرَبَ) is مَبْنِيٌّ عَلَى الْفَتْحِ.

Declinable and Indeclinable Words اَلمُعرَب والمَبنيُّ

اَلْمَبْنِيُّ – The indeclinable word

As mentioned earlier, a مَبْنِيٌّ is a word whose end remains unchanged in all conditions i.e. irrespective of the requirement of the عَامِلٌ governing it.

	جَاءَ هٰذَا	رَأَيْتُ هٰذَا	مَرَرْتُ بِهٰذَا
e.g.	This came.	I saw this.	I passed by this.

Note: The حَرَكَةٌ at the end of هٰذَا remains constant and does not change according to the عَامِلٌ requirement.

المُعرَب والمَبنيُّ Declinable and Indeclinable Words

Types of مَبْنِيٌّ:

1. All Particles (حُرُوفٌ) *

2. اَلْفِعْلُ اَلْمَاضِيْ *

3. اَلْأَمْرُ اَلْحَاضِرُ اَلْمَعْرُوْفُ *

4. and ثَقِيْلَةٌ) نُوْنُ التَّأْكِيْدِ have or (حَاضِرٌ and غَائِبٌ) that are جَمْعُ مُؤَنَّثٍ فِعْلٌ مُضَارِعٌ of Those *seeghahs* خَفِيْفَةٌ).(

Declinable and Indeclinable Words المُعرَب والمَبنيُّ

5. Amongst *isms*, those whose ends remain constant are called غَيْرُ الْمُتَمَكِّنِ i.e. *isms* which do not give place to changes. These *isms* are مَبْنِيٌّ and are recognized by their resemblance with any one of the three types of اَلْمَبْنِيُّ الْأَصْلُ words (حُرُوْفٌ or اَلْفِعْلُ الْمَاضِى or اَلْأَمْرُ اَلْحَاضِرُ). This resemblance can be in any one of the following ways:

a. Resemblance in meaning. For example, the *ism* رُوَيْدَ (give grace/respite) resembles the word أَمْهِلْ, which is اَلْأَمْرُ اَلْحَاضِرُ اَلْمَعْرُوْفُ (one of the اَلْمَبْنِيُّ الْأَصْلُ) and has the same meaning.

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b. Resemblance in dependency. For example, the *ism* (اِسْمُ الْإِشَارَةِ) هٰذَا, which is dependent on a مُشَارٌ إِلَيْهِ to give meaning, resembles a حَرْفٌ (one of the (اَلْمَبْنِيُّ الْأَصْلُ, which is also dependent on another word to give meaning.

c. Resemblance in having less than three letters. For example, the *ism* مَنْ, which is less than three letters, resembles حَرْفٌ (e.g. وَ), which is also generally less than three letters.

d. Resemblance in having had a حَرْفٌ originally. For example, the *ism* أَحَدَ عَشَرَ resembles a حَرْفٌ in the sense that originally it contained a حَرْفٌ (أَحَدٌ وَعَشْرٌ).

المُعرَب والمَبنيُّ Declinable and Indeclinable Words

اَلْإِعْرَابُ الْمَحَلِّيّ:

When a مَبْنِيٌّ word appears in a sentence in a place where it is supposed to be in the state of رَفْعٌ, نَصْبٌ, جَرٌّ, or جَزْمٌ, its end does not change because it is مَبْنِيٌّ. However, it is said that it is in the place of رَفْعٌ, نَصْبٌ, جَرٌّ, or جَزْمٌ (فِيْ مَحَلِّ رَفْعٍ أَوْ نَصْبٍ أَوْ جَرٍّ أَوْ جَزْمٍ), in accordance with its place in the sentence.

For example,

نَصَرْنَاهُ   We helped him.

Keeping in mind that all pronouns are مَبْنِيٌّ, this sentence will be analyzed as follows:

نَصَرْ is فِعْلٌ مَاضٍ and is مَبْنِيٌّ عَلَى السُّكُوْنِ.

نَا is فَاعِلٌ, is مَبْنِيٌّ عَلَى السُّكُوْنِ and فِيْ مَحَلِّ رَفْعٍ.

ه is مَفْعُوْلٌ بِهِ, is مَبْنِيٌّ عَلَى الضَّمِّ and فِيْ مَحَلِّ نَصْبٍ.

Declinable and Indeclinable Words المُعرَب والمَبنيُّ

اَلْمُعْرَبُ – **The declinable word**

As mentioned above, a مُعْرَبٌ is a word whose end accepts any of the *i'raab* according to the requirement of the عَامِلٌ governing it.

مَرَرْتُ بِرَجُلٍ	رَأَيْتُ رَجُلًا	جَاءَ رَجُلٌ	e.g.
I passed by a man.	I saw a man.	A man came.	

Note: Here, the *i'raab* of رجل has changed according to the requirement of the عَامِلٌ.

جَاءَ رَجُلٌ   رَأَيْتُ رَجُلًا   مَرَرْتُ بِرَجُلٍ

A man came.   I saw a man.   I passed by a man.

Declinable and Indeclinable Words الْمُعْرَب والْمَبنيُّ

<u>Types of مُعْرَبٌ</u>:

1. Amongst *fi'ls*, all of the *seeghahs* of فِعْلٌ مُضَارِعٌ besides those of (حَاضِرٌ and غَائِبٌ) جَمْعُ مُؤَنَّثٍ and those with (خَفِيْفَةٌ and ثَقِيْلَةٌ) نُوْنُ التَّأْكِيْدِ are مُعْرَبٌ.

2. Amongst *isms*, those *isms* which accept *i'raab* changes are مُعْرَبٌ. They are known as مُتَمَكِّنٌ i.e. *isms* which give place to *i'raab* changes.

   Note: Such an *ism* is مُعْرَبٌ only when it is used in a sentence. If not used in a sentence, it is مَبْنِيٌّ. For example, بَيْت on its own, when not part of a sentence, is مَبْنِيٌّ عَلَى الضَّمِّ.

Declinable and Indeclinable Words المُعرَب والمَبنيُّ

Types of indeclinable _isms_ – أَقْسَامُ الْأَسْمَاءِ الْمَبْنِيَّةِ

The types of اَلْأَسْمَاءُ الْمَبْنِيَّةُ are as follows:

1. اَلضَّمَائِرُ (personal pronouns)

2. اَلْأَسْمَاءُ الْمَوْصُوْلَةُ (relative pronouns)

3. أَسْمَاءُ الْإِشَارَةِ (demonstrative pronouns)

4. أَسْمَاءُ الْأَفْعَالِ (_isms_ that have the meaning of _fi'ls_)

5. أَسْمَاءُ الْأَصْوَاتِ (_isms_ that denote a sound)

6. اَلظُّرُوْفُ (adverbs)

7. اَلْكِنَايَاتُ (_isms_ that indicate an unspecified quantity)

8. اَلْمُرَكَّبُ الْبِنَائِيُّ (numerical phrase)