

## Single and Dual Forms

146. What is a singular noun?

147. What is a dual noun?

148. How is a dual noun formed?

149. Are there some exceptions to this rule?

150. How are *maqsūr* nouns made dual?

151. How are *mamdūd* nouns made dual?

146. A singular noun is a noun that indicates one person, one animal, or one thing. For example: نجَّار (a carpenter).

147. A dual noun is a noun that indicates two people, two animals, or two things. For example: نجَّاران (two carpenters).

148. A noun is put into the dual form by giving the last syllable a *fathah* and adding the dual letters which are:

- An *alif* and *nūn* that has a *kasrah* if the noun is in the nominative state. For example: جاءَ ولدَانِ (two boys came)

- A *yā'* and *nūn* that has a *kasrah* if the noun is in the accusative or genitive case. For example: اسطدْتُ عُصْفَرَيْنِ (I hunted two sparrows)

149. Yes, there are some exceptions to this rule. The exceptions are *maqsūr* nouns and *mamdūd* nouns.

150. A *maqsūr* noun has two cases:

- If it ends in a straight *alif* – the *alif* should be changed to a *wāw* and then the dual letters should be

added. For example: **عصا** (cane) becomes **عَصَوِ** which becomes **عَصَوَانِ** (two canes).

- If it ends in an *alif maqṣūrah* – the *alif* should be changed to a *yā'* and then the dual letters should be added. For example: **فتى** (young man) becomes **فَتِي** which becomes **فَتَيَانِ** (two young men).

151. A *mamdūd* noun has two cases:

- If the *hamzah* is a feminine *hamzah* – the *hamzah* should be changed into a *wāw* with a *fathah* and then the dual letters should be added. For example: **خَصْرَاء** (green) becomes **خَضْرَاوِ** which becomes **خَضْرَاوَانِ**.

- If the *hamzah* is not a feminine *hamzah* – the *hamzah* can either remain or be changed into a *wāw* with a *fathah* and then the dual letters should be added. For example **سَمَاء** (sky) becomes **سَمَاء** or **سَمَاوِ** which becomes **سَمَاءَانِ** or **سَمَاوَانِ** (two skies).

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