

Conjugational and Non-Conjugational Declinable Nouns

188. What is a conjugational declinable noun?

189. What is a non-conjugational declinable noun?

190. How many types of nouns are there that do not conjugate?

191. When is a proper noun non-conjugational?

192. What condition makes an adjective non-conjugational?

193. When is a plural non-conjugational?

194. What condition makes a noun ending in a feminine *alif* non-conjugational?

195. When does a non-conjugational noun receive a *kasrah*?

188. A conjugational declinable noun is a noun which accepts nunation and all vowel signs, for example: **جاءنا رجلٌ عالمٌ**.

189. A non-conjugational declinable noun is a noun that does not accept a *kasrah* or nunation; it is limited in accepting a *dumma* and a *fathah* only, for example: **قَدِمَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ وَ سَافَرْتُ مَعَ يُوسُفَ**.

190. The nouns which do not conjugate are: singular proper nouns and singular adjectives, plurals in the forms **مَفَاعِلِ** and **مَفَاعِيلِ**, and any noun that ends in the feminine *alif*.

191. Proper nouns are non-conjugational in six cases: First, if it ends in an additional *alif* and *nūn*, for example: **عَثْمَانُ**. Second, if it is in a form similar to a verb, for example: **أَحْمَدُ**. Third, if it is an insignificant compound, for example: **بَعْلَبَكَّ**. Fourth, if it is feminine, be it grammatically (**مُعَاوِيَةُ**), real (**مَرِيَمُ**), or grammatically and real (**وَرْدَةُ**). Fifth, if it is a non-Arabic word consisting of more than three letters, for example: **إِبْرَاهِيمُ**. Sixth, if it is transformed, for example: **عُمَرُ** which is transformed from **عَامِرُ**.

193. Plurals become non-conjugational when they have the following forms: مَفَاعِلٍ for example: مَسَاجِدٍ or مَفَاعِيلٍ for example: مَصَابِيحٍ.

194. *Maqsūr* and *mamdūd* nouns ending in the feminine *alif* are non-conjugational whether they are singular or plural or proper or adjective on the condition that the *alif* is additional, not an original letter of the word and that it has four letters or more, for example: سَلَمَى.

195. A non-conjugational noun is but in the genitive form by giving it a *kasrah* when it is the compliment of a prefixed noun or given the *alif-lam* prefix, for example: مَرَرْتُ بِأَفْضَلِ الْعُلَمَاءِ.

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