

Lesson >

النحو

تَذْكِيرُ الْفِعْلِ مَعَ فَاعِلِهِ الْمُوَنَّثِ

Masculine Verb with Feminine Subject

The Grammatical Element

In the following passages of the Glorious Qur'aan the verb is masculine though the *faa'il* of each verb is feminine:

(المتحنة: 10) ﴿إِذَا جَاءَكُمُ الْمُؤْمِنَاتُ...﴾

faa'il

(المتحنة: 12) ﴿إِذَا جَاءَكَ الْمُؤْمِنَاتُ...﴾

faa'il

The Rule

The rule is that:

- a) if the *faa'il* is a biologically feminine noun, and
 - b) is not separated from its *fi'l* by another word,
- the verb **must** be feminine.

E.g.:

نَجَحَتْ زَيْنَبُ،
خَرَجَتْ الْبَقْرَةُ.

But if a biologically feminine *faa'il* is separated from its *fi'l*, the verb **may** be masculine, e.g.:

E.g.:

زَارَتْني أُخْتِي،
زَارَني أُخْتِي.

Here the *faa'il* is separated from its *fi'l* by the *maf'uul bihii*, the *yaa*.

Though the former construction is the more frequently used one.

Here is another example:

سَافِرَ الْيَوْمَ زَيْنَبُ .

In both the *ayaat*, the *faa"il* is separated from the *fi"l* by the *maf"uul bihii* :

﴿ إِذَا جَاءَكُمْ الْمُؤْمِنَاتُ... ﴾

﴿ إِذَا جَاءَكَ الْمُؤْمِنَاتُ... ﴾

Ibnu Maalik says in his *al-'Alfiyyah*:



وَقَدْ يُبِيحُ الْفَصْلُ تَرْكَ التَّاءِ فِي:
نَحْوِ «أَتَى الْقَاضِي بِنْتُ الْوَاقِفِ»

Separation may justify
the omission of the *taa'* (in *فَعَلْتُ - تَفَعَّلْتُ*)
in such a sentence as

أَتَى الْقَاضِي بِنْتُ الْوَاقِفِ

«أَتَى الْقَاضِيَ بِنْتُ الْوَاقِفِ»

Meaning:

The daughter of the *waqif* (the donor of the *waqf* (endowment)) came to the judge.

«أَتَى الْقَاضِيَ بِنْتُ الْوَاقِفِ»

Here the *faa"il* is a biologically feminine noun: **بِنْتُ**,
but the verb is masculine : **أَتَى**.

This is because the *faa"il* is separated from its *fi"l* by the *maf"uul bihii*: **القَاضِيَ**.

Admin.'s Notes:

Recommended Reading

This topic is discussed in the following books /courses by our Shaykh:

1) From Esfahan to Madinah In Search of Truth: *Hadiith* of Salmaan al-Faarisiyy (raDiyallaahu "anhu) - With Lexical & Grammatical Notes

2) Selections from the Glorious Qur'aan - With Lexical & Grammatical Notes (DVD3, Part A1)

3) **دروس اللغة العربية** : **كتاب المعلم** : **Teacher's Guides for Madinah Arabic Course (Vol. 2.)**

4) **المُسَعَّفُ فِي لُغَةِ وَإِعْرَابِ سُورَةِ يُوسُفَ**

(Lexical & Grammatical Exposition of *Suurah Yuusuf*) [Detailed discussion]