

اللغة العربية

«يَا بُنَيَّ»

'O my dear son'



Question

I am confused about the word **يَا بُنَيَّ** in *sūrah Yūsuf*.

How is this derived from **بُنَيَّ**?

Faḍīlat al-Shaykh Dr. V. Abdur Rahim (حفظه الله) replies:



يا بُنَيَّ:

This is mentioned in **دُرُوسُ اللُّغَةِ الْعَرَبِيَّةِ** Book 3, lesson 26.

الْمُنَادَى الْمُضَافُ إِلَى يَاءِ الْمُتَكَلِّمِ:

If **الْمُنَادَى** is a noun with the pronoun of the first person singular as its **مُضَافٍ إِلَيْهِ**, it has five different forms:

1. **يَا رَبِّي** This is regular.
2. **يَا رَبِّيَ** This is also regular except that the *yā'* has *fathah*.
3. **يَا رَبِّ** This is with the omission of the *yā'*.
4. **يَا رَبَّ** This is like the previous one but with *fathah* instead of *kasrah*.
5. **يَا رَبَّأ** This is like the previous one but with a long *fathah*.

'My dear son' is **بُنَيَّ** like **رَبِّي** .

If **بُنَيِّ** becomes *munādā*, ('O my dear son') it also has the following five forms:

1. **يَا بُنَيِّ** *yaa bunayy-iy* This is regular.
2. **يَا بُنَيِّ** *yaa bunayy-iya* This is also regular except that the *yā'* has *fathah*.
3. **يَا بُنَيِّ** *yaa bunayy-i* This is with the omission of the *yā'*.
4. **يَا بُنَيِّ** *yaa bunayy-a* This is like the previous one but with *fathah* instead of *kasrah*.
5. **يَا بُنَيَّا** *yaa bunayy-aa* This is like the previous one but with a long *fathah*.

The form used in the Qur'ān is the fourth form.