

القرآن الكريم

﴿قَالُوا وَمَا لَنَا أَلَّا نُقَاتِلَ﴾



(البقرة: ٢٤٦)

Question

We learnt on one of the advanced courses by Dr. Abdur Rahim that for a *shibh jumlah*, the actual *khobar* is *مُسْتَقَرٌّ* or *اسْتَقَرَّ*.

Is this the case with the following *āyah*?:

﴿قَالُوا وَمَا لَنَا أَلَّا نُقَاتِلَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ﴾ (البقرة: ٢٤٦)

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



Dear Brother

وعليكم السلام ورحمة الله وبركاته

The *shibhu jumlah* occurring as *khabar* is in fact مُتَعَلِّقٌ of the real *khabar* which is اسْتَقَرَّ or كَانُ.

In the āyah 2:246:

﴿قَالُوا وَمَا لَنَا أَلَّا نُقَاتِلَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ﴾

﴿مَا﴾ is *mubtada'* and its *khabar* is كَانُ, and ﴿لَنَا﴾ is مُتَعَلِّقٌ بِهِ.

﴿مَا﴾ here is *istifhāmiyyah*, but signifies إنكار (rejection, non-acceptance).

In ﴿أَنْ لَا نُقَاتِلَ﴾ the *ḥarf jarr* فِي has been omitted.

A *ḥarf jarr* can regularly be omitted before a *maṣdar mu'awwal*.

So the full sentence is:

مَا لَنَا فِي أَنْ لَا نُقَاتِلَ

So the meaning of:

﴿وَمَا لَنَا أَلَّا نُقَاتِلَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ﴾

is:

وَمَا لَنَا فِي أَلَّا نُقَاتِلَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ

'Why should we not fight for Allaah's cause when we have been driven out of our homes and our children?'

Hope this has helped you to understand the *āyah*.

والسلام

Abdur rahim