

اللغة العربية

تَاءُ التَّائِيثِ * نُونُ النِّسْوَةِ



Question

My profound respect and warmest greetings to Dr. Vaniya. Allāh grant him a long and healthy life.

In أَكَلْتُ the *tā'* is the mark of the feminine and the subject is *mustatir* (silent).

But in أَكَلْنَا, the *nūn* is the mark of the subject (*fā'il*) and also the mark of the feminine.

I am confused.

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



وعليكم السلام

1. You explain مُسْتَتِرٌ as *silent*. This is not correct.

مُسْتَتِرٌ means *hidden*, i.e., it has no form in writing, and so it does not physically exist, but it exists in our minds.

Now, in أَكَلْتُ the *tā'* is not the *fā'il* because the verb takes a *fā'il* as in

أَكَلْتُ زَيْنَبُ.

But in:

أَأَكَلْتُ زَيْنَبُ؟ نَعَمْ، أَكَلْتُ.

the *fā'il* is the hidden pronoun.

The *tā'* cannot be the *ḍamīr*, for in that case in أَكَلْتُ زَيْنَبُ

- the verb has two *fā'ils* which is not possible.

2. You say:

'But in أَكَلْنَا، the *nūn* is the mark of the subject.'

Your expression is not correct.

The *nūn* is the subject. It is not the mark of the subject.

It is the subject because no subject can come after it.

So you cannot say,

أَكَلْنَ الْبَنَاتُ. ❌

I hope this is clear.

والسلام,

abdur rahim