

Lesson 1

The Phrase

بِرْمَتِهِ

Here is an expression:

أَعْطَاهُ الشَّيْءَ بِرْمَتِهِ

meaning :

He gave him the thing in its entirety, he gave it to him completely.

We may also say:

أَكَلْتُ الدَّجَاجَةَ بِرْمَتِهَا

I ate the whole chicken.

Does the word رُمَّةٌ mean 'entirety'?

No. It means a halter, i.e., a rope tied to the camel's neck.

But then, how did it acquire the meaning of 'entirety'?

It acquired it from a particular incident.

It is said that a man who was selling his camel was asked to sell it **بِرْمَتِهِ** i.e., with its rope. And that is how the word acquired the meaning of 'entirety'.

The word **رُمَّةٌ** originally means:

'a worn out piece of rope'.

It is related to the word **رَمِيمٌ** used in the Glorious Qur'aan in the following *aayaat* :

وَضَرَبَ لَنَا مَثَلًا وَنَسِيَ خَلْقَهُ قَالَ مَنْ يُحْيِي
 الْعِظَامَ وَهِيَ رَمِيمٌ ﴿٧٨﴾ قُلْ يُحْيِيهَا الَّذِي أَنْشَأَهَا
 أَوَّلَ مَرَّةٍ وَهُوَ بِكُلِّ خَلْقٍ عَلِيمٌ ﴿٧٩﴾

(يس 78-79)

He puts forth for Us a parable, and forgets his own creation. He says, 'Who will quicken (revive) the bones when they are **decayed**?'

Say, 'He will quicken them Who originated them the first time. He knows every creation.'

(*al-Qur'aan* 36: 78-79)