

## اللغة العربية



# كَمْ وَلَدًا عِنْدَكَ؟ / كَمْ وَلَدًا لَكَ؟

## Question

كَمِ السَّلَامِ عَلَيْكُمْ dear sheikh

I came across this:

وَقِيلَ لِإِعْرَابِيٍّ : كَمْ وَلَدٍ عِنْدَكَ؟

فَقَالَ : لِي عِنْدَ اللَّهِ خَمْسَةٌ وَلَهُ عِنْدِي ثَلَاثَةٌ

We learned that for close relationship like sons and daughters and integral parts we use لَ but how come it says **عِنْدَكَ** for sons instead of **لَكَ** in this sentence?

Dear Br Hasan

وعليكم السلام

It is clear from the man's reply that he makes a distinction between the *laam* and *عند*.

He says:

لِي عِنْدَ اللَّهِ خَمْسَةٌ

"I have five children residing with Allaah" (meaning they are dead),

وَلَهُ عِنْدِي ثَلَاثَةٌ

"and three of His children (i.e., those given to me by Him) are residing with me'.

In the first sentence there is a mistake: **كَمْ وُلْدٍ عِنْدَكَ**

It should be **وَلَدًا** as it is a question and not an exclamation.

**كَمْ وُلْدًا عِنْدَكَ؟** The questioner means, 'how many of your children are still alive and live with you?'

Hope this is clear.

Regards.

والسلام

abdur rahim