

يُحْمَدُ اللّٰهُ الرَّحْمٰنُ الرَّحِيْمُ

ALI 210: SESSION 6

ON RECITING THE HOLY QUR'AN

My teachers used to quote following verse:

أَوْ إِذَا قرَأْتَ الْقُرْآنَ جَعَلْنَا بَيْنَكَ وَبَيْنَ الَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ بِالْآخِرَةِ حِجَابًا
مَّسْتُورًا

17:45 *When you recite the Qur'an, We draw between you and those who do not believe in the Hereafter a hidden curtain*

On learning the Holy Qur'an

• وَعَنْ أَمِيرِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ عَلِيِّ بْنِ أَبِي طَالِبٍ (ع): تَعَلَّمُوا كِتَابَ
اللَّهِ تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى، فَإِنَّهُ أَحْسَنُ الْحَدِيثِ وَأَبْلَغُ الْمَوْعِظَةِ، وَتَفَقَّهُوا فِيهِ
فَإِنَّهُ رَبِيعُ الْقُلُوبِ، وَاسْتَشْفُوا بِنُورِهِ فَإِنَّهُ شِفَاءٌ لِمَا فِي الصُّدُورِ،
وَأَحْسِنُوا تِلَاوَتَهُ فَإِنَّهُ أَحْسَنُ الْقَصَصِ

Imam Ali (a): Learn the Book of Allah Almighty;
for it is the best speech and the most eloquent
exhortation. Get educated through it, for it is the
spring of the hears. Get cured by its light, cure for
it is the cure for everything in the heart. Excel in
its recitation for it is the best of its stories. (*The
Scale of Wisdom*, H. 5159)

Lesson 5: 1st p sg genitive suffix

We discussed in detail use of suffixing يَ to a noun and the effects it brings. Let us revise important points.

1. Suffixing يَ to عَذَابٌ ‘punishment’ becomes عَذَابِي meaning ‘my punishment.’ Similarly أَجْرِي means ‘my reward.’

2. It is known as first person singular genitive suffix because it only applies to 1st person singular and it changes to genitive (having *kasra*) in all cases & is suffixed to a noun. If we suffix 1st p. plural, or 2nd or 3rd person sg. & pl. to كِتَابٌ we get: كِتَابُنَا، كِتَابُكَ، كِتَابُكُمْ، كِتَابُكَنَّ، كِتَابُهُ، كِتَابُهَا، كِتَابُهُمْ، كِتَابُهُنَّ

3. Genitive suffix makes noun definite so (i) it loses *tanwin* and (ii) takes a definite adjective. So ‘my pleasant life’ will be rendered as حَيَاتِي الطَّيِّبَةُ & ‘my long life’ is حَيَاتِي الطَّوِيلَةُ .

Indefinite adjective becomes predicate

4. If we add indefinite adjective to 1st p. sg. Genitive suffix, it becomes predicate (and not adjective for the noun).

عِبَادِي صَالِحُونَ = My servants are righteous. This is a complete non-verbal sentence where صَالِحُونَ is a predicate.

Translate the following, separating adjectives from predicates

مَلَائِكَتِي الْمُقَرَّبُونَ = My

مَلَائِكَتِي مُقَرَّبُونَ = My

عَذَابِي شَدِيدٌ = My

حَسْبِيَ اللَّهُ = My (39:38)

رَبِّي رَحِيمٌ = My (11:90)

[Note مُقَرَّبُونَ = those who are near]

Predicate is prepositional phrase

5. In the following non-verbal sentences predicate is more than a word, composed of prepositional phrase

إِبْنِي مِنْ أَهْلِي = my son is from my family/clan (Ref 11:45)

أَجْرِي عَلَى اللَّهِ = my reward is with/upon Allah (11:29). I.e. Allah, and not people, will reward me for my efforts.

تَوْفِيقِي بِاللَّهِ = my success is with Allah. Refer to 11:88

6. Now look at the famous Qur'anic verse 6:162 and identify as many rules as we have covered so far:

قُلْ إِنْ صَلَاتِي وَنُسُكِي وَمَحْيَايَ وَمَمَاتِي لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

Say, 'Indeed my prayer and my worship, my life and my death, are for those the sake of Allah, the Lord of all the worlds.'

What if the predicate is definite?

In some non-verbal sentences we may have predicates which are definite, for e.g. 'Allah is the truth.'

7. To separate a definite predicate from a definite subject, a third person pronoun is inserted between them. This is known as *damir al-fasl*, pronoun of separation.

عَذَابِيْ هُوَ الْعَذَابُ الْاَلِيْمُ = My punishment is the painful punishment. (note the emphasis in the tone)

اَللّٰهُ هُوَ التَّوَّابُ الرَّحِيْمُ = Allah is the All-clement, the All-merciful.

See verses 2:37, 54, 9:104 and 118 with slight differences.

اَللّٰهُ هُوَ الْهُدٰى = Allah is the guidance (2:120), i.e. the true guidance lies with Allah, and none else.