



PROHIBITION

النفي الفعل *Al Nafi al-Fi'l*

The following is a chart for prohibition:

Plural جمع	Dual مثنى	Singular مفرد	
لَا يَفْعَلُوا They should not do	لَا يَفْعَلَا They should not do	لَا يَفْعَلُ He should not do	الغائب المذكر Third person masculine
لَا يَفْعَلْنَ They should not do	لَا تَفْعَلَا They should not do	لَا تَفْعَلُ She should not do	الغائب المؤنث Third person feminine
لَا تَفْعَلُوا You should not do	لَا تَفْعَلَا You should not do	لَا تَفْعَلُ You should not do	الحاضر المذكر Second person masculine
لَا تَفْعَلْنَ You should not do	لَا تَفْعَلَا you should not do	لَا تَفْعَلِي You should not do	الحاضر المؤنث Second person feminine
لَا نَفْعَلُ We (all) should not do	لَا نَفْعَلُ We (two) should not do	لَا أَفْعَلُ I should not do	المتكلم المذكر/المؤنث First person (masculine & feminine)

The effect of لَا for prohibition on the *i'raab* of the مضارع (present/future tense) is the same as

the effect of لَ for imperative; i.e., changing the into a .

The following are some examples of prohibition:

فَلَا تَقُلْ لَهُمَا أُفٍّ وَلَا نَهَرَهُمَا

Do not say to them a word of contempt nor repel them. (17:23)

وَلَا تَقْتُلُوا أَوْلَادَكُمْ

And do not kill your children. (17:31)

وَلَا تَقْرَبُوا الزِّنَىٰ

Do not go near adultery. (17:32)

فَلَا تَخْضَعْنَ بِالْقَوْلِ

Be not too complaisant of speech. (33:32)

وَلَا تَبْرَجْنَ

And make not a dazzling display. (33:33)

وَلَا تَجْعَلْ مَعَ اللَّهِ إِلَهًا آخَرَ

And do not make with Allah other gods. (17:39)

لَا يَسْخَرُونَ مِنْ قَوْمٍ

Some men should not laugh at others. (49:11)

لَا تَرْفَعُوا أَصْوَاتَكُمْ

Do not raise your voices. (49:2)

أَنْ لَا يَقُولُوا عَلَى اللَّهِ إِلَّا الْحَقَّ

That they should not ascribe to Allah except the truth. (7:169)

Note: The difference between the لا for simple negation and the لا for prohibition should be understood. The لا for negation has no effect on the verb.

The following are some examples of negation:

لَا يَرْقُبُونَ فِي مُؤْمِنٍ إِلَّا

They **do not** respect in the believers the ties of kinship. (9:10)

لَا يَسْأَلُونَ النَّاسَ إِلْحَافًا

They **do not** beg importunately. (2:273)

أَلَا نُقَاتِلُوكَ قَوْمًا نَكَثُوا أَيْمَانَهُمْ

Will you **not** fight the people who violated their oaths... (9:13)

فَلَا تَعْلَمُ نَفْسٌ مَّا أُخْفِيَ لَهُمْ

No person **knows** what (delights) are kept hidden. (32:17)

For simple negation, مَا is also used both with past, present and future tense; it has no effect on the verb.

Examples:

وَمَا تُنْفِقُونَ إِلَّا ابْتِغَاءَ وَجْهِ اللَّهِ

And you **do not** spend except seeking the pleasure of Allah. (2:272)

وَمَا كَفَرَ سُلَيْمَنُ

And Solomon **did not** reject... (2:102)