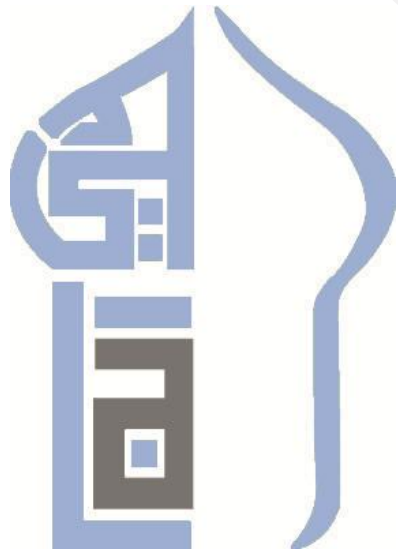


بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

ALI 714: Quranic Arabic and knowledge, Level 5



Session 1: Tuesday Mar 31, 2026, 7:00 – 8:00 pm ON/NY time.

Description: In this online course, specially tailored for serious learners, we will attempt to simplify Quranic Arabic. To make it interesting, we will begin with a brief discussion on Quranic verses invoked by Amirul Mu'minīn عليه السلام in *Nahjul Balāghah*. At this level, we will continue learning grammatical rules on nouns covered in Lesson 18 onwards in *Qur'anic Language Made Easy* by Hafiza Iffath Hassan. Have a copy of the Quran with side-by-side translation in English.

Eligibility: All Muslims ages 15 and over.

Schedule: 6 Tuesdays, March 31 to May 5, 2026.

Today's agenda: 1. Qur'an in *Nahjul Balāghah*. 2. a quick revision of Lesson 17 from the Text. 3. Lesson 18 on Demonstrative Pronoun. 4. Q & A on past lessons. 5. why do we need a classmate buddy?

Saying 88 from *Nahjul Balāghah*

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ. كَانَ فِي الْأَرْضِ أَمَانَانِ مِنْ عَذَابِ اللَّهِ وَقَدْ رُفِعَ أَحَدُهُمَا فِدُونَكُمْ
الْآخَرَ فَتَمَسَّكُوا بِهِ: أَمَّا الْأَمَانُ الَّذِي رُفِعَ فَهُوَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ - صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ، وَأَمَّا
الْأَمَانُ الْبَاقِي فَالِاسْتِغْفَارُ. قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى ﴿وَمَا كَانَ اللَّهُ لِيُعَذِّبَهُمْ وَأَنْتَ فِيهِمْ وَمَا كَانَ اللَّهُ
مُعَذِّبَهُمْ وَهُمْ يَسْتَغْفِرُونَ﴾.

Bismillāh. There are two sources of deliverance from the Allah's punishment, one of which has been raised up, while the other is before you. You should therefore adhere to it. The source of deliverance which has been raised up is the Messenger of Allah (may He bless him and his descendants), while the source of deliverance that remains is the seeking of forgiveness. Allah, the Glorified, has said: *And Allah is not to chastise them while you are among them, nor is Allah to chastise them while yet they seek forgiveness.* (Q 8:33)

Grammar rules covered earlier: (1) genitive due to preposition x 4, (2) dual form of a noun, (3) genitive due to *mudāf ilayhi* x 2.

A brief intro to *Nahjul Balāghah/Nahj al-Balāghah*

Bismillāh. ***Nahj al-Balāghah*** (“Peak of Eloquence”) is a renown compilation of sermons, letters, and sayings attributed to Amirul Mu'minīn Imam Ali ibn Abi Talib عليه السلام. It was compiled in the 4th AH/10th CE century by a Shī'ah scholar **Al-Sharīf al-Radhī**, who selected passages known for their depth, spirituality, and linguistic beauty. Its significance lies in being: A Primary Source of Spiritual and Ethical Guidance. Our scholars regard *Nahj al-Balāghah* as one of the most important texts after the Qur'an and the teachings of the Prophet. It provides deep reflections on monotheism (*tawhīd*), justice, and the nature of God. It offers guidance on self-purification, humility, and detachment from worldly excess. Sermons like the famous Sermon of the Pious (Khutbat al-Muttaqīn) outline traits of true believers. It is a window into Ali's emphasis on knowledge, wisdom, and moral responsibility and his role as both a spiritual authority and political leader. *Nahj* is frequently studied alongside the Qur'an for its linguistic power. Shī'ah scholars often use it as a source for theology (*'aqīdah*) and philosophical reflection.

It has three main sections:

- 1, 241 sermons,
- 2, 63 letters, commandments and wills
- 3, 480 maxims and short sayings.

A brief discussion Saying 88 in *Nahj*

Amirul Mu'minīn Imam Ali bin Talib عليه السلام has quoted Quranic over hundred verses in his words gathered in *Nahjul Balāghah*. Note that whenever Quranic verse, sentence or a phrase appears in Du'ā and Hadith, it demonstrates the close connection between the Quran and the Ahlul Bayt عليهم السلام and in some cases, it serves as *tafsīr* of that verse. The compiler al-Radhi says regarding saying 88: this is one of the most beautiful way of deducing the meaning and the most delicate manner of interpretation. In saying 88, Imam Ali عليه السلام explains about two great safeguards and protections (*amanan*) on this earth, from the Divine punishment: the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وآله and the institution of istighfār. One of them, that is the Holy Prophet, has been removed on account his demise. Therefore, let us hold fast and adhere to istighfār by repeatedly and sincerely pleading for Allah's forgiveness from our sins and mistakes.

'Allamah Tabātabā'ī comments on Q 8:33, “when it says they will not be punished, it means that, unlike previous nations, the Muslim nation will not be wiped out by punishment from the heavens. God will not punish the Muslim nation if the Prophet is alive, among them, or, after him, if they seek forgiveness from God (*Al-Mizān*, v. 17, p. 90).

Why study Quranic Arabic?

Bismillāh. Here are a few reasons on why it is important to study Quranic Arabic:

- 1, All Muslims believe that the Quran is a miracle, and its concise words are full of meanings. It is impossible to translate it precisely.
- 2, Translations of the Quran in other languages are products of the translators' personal or individual understanding. This gives differences in the Divine messages, rulings and injunctions.
- 3, The Quran in its original language consist of spiritual attractions and melodious arrangements which permeate the soul and psyche of the reciter, paving grounds for acceptance of the Divine message. Translations deprive the reader of these gifts.
- 4, Allah ﷻ has reveled that the Quran has been revealed in clear Arabic language, and this has been emphasized in numerous verses, such as 12:2, 26:195, 39:28, etc.
- 5, Most translators do not have the knowledge required to understand and interpret the indefinite (*mutashābih*) verbs and complex expressions.

Read what scholars [say](#) about learning Quranic Arabic.

Revision: Masculine and Feminine Nouns

Every noun is a masculine unless cover the following five categories:

1. Nouns ending with ة، ي، آء. For examples refer to Table on p. 52 of the Text
2. Parts of the body that are in pair. The complete of body parts was covered in Lesson 16. Examples of body parts in pairs in found in the second Table on p. 52 of the Text.
3. Names given to the wind, e.g., سَمُومٌ، رِيحٌ
4. Names given to fire, e.g., نَارٌ، جَهَنَّمَ
5. Miscellaneous words contained in the Table on page 53 of the Text.

EXCEPTIONS: Like most grammar rules in Arabic, there are exception to the above. The following words although ending in ة and آء are NOT feminine.

أُمَّةٌ، عُلَمَاءٌ، فُقَرَاءٌ، خَلِيفَةٌ،

HOMEWORK: How do we know that the highlighted words in the verses are masculine or feminine?

وَالسَّمَاءِ بَنَيْنَاهَا، وَالْأَرْضِ فَرَشْنَاهَا، وَالشَّمْسِ وَضُحَاهَا ﴿١﴾ وَالْقَمَرِ إِذَا تَلَاهَا ﴿٢﴾ وَالنَّهَارِ إِذَا جَلَّاهَا ﴿٣﴾ وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا يَغْشَاهَا ﴿٤﴾ وَالسَّمَاءِ وَمَا بَنَاهَا ﴿٥﴾ وَالْأَرْضِ وَمَا طَحَاهَا ﴿٦﴾ وَنَفْسٍ وَمَا سَوَّاهَا ﴿٧﴾ فَأَلْهَمَهَا فُجُورَهَا وَتَقْوَاهَا ﴿٨﴾ قَدْ أَفْلَحَ مَنْ زَكَّاهَا ﴿٩﴾ وَقَدْ خَابَ مَنْ دَسَّاهَا ﴿١٠﴾

Lesson 18: Demonstrative Pronouns – أسماء الإشارة

Demonstrative pronouns are nouns to point to something nearby (قَرِيب *qarīb*) or far (بَعِيد *ba'īd*). For NEAR we have:

Plural	Dual	Singular	Gender
هَؤُلَاءِ	هَذَانِ \ هَذَيْنِ	هَذَا	مُذَكَّر
These (all)	These (two)	This	<i>Masculine</i>
هَؤُلَاءِ	هَاتَانِ \ هَاتَيْنِ	هَذِهِ	مُؤَنَّث
These (all)	These (two)	This	<i>Feminine</i>

Demonstratives are used either as pronouns or adjectivally. In the Quran *hādhā* and *hādhīhi* are used frequently as adjectives.

Adjectival use: The demonstrative precedes the noun and is linked to it by the definite article. E.g., *hādhā al-Quran*, *hādhīhi al-nār*.

Note that all the above begin with letter *hā* (ه).

Homework on session 1

Bismillāh. 1, highlight the demonstrative pronouns in any 7 from the 18 verses below:

2, indicate if it is a singular, dual or plural?

3, also identify the noun it refers to, and its gender?

For e.g., in Q 2:25 the demonstrative pronoun is هَذَا, it is singular. It refers to رِزْقًا which is masculine.

وَبَشِّرِ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ أَنَّ لَهُمْ جَنَّاتٍ تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ
كُلَّمَا رُزِقُوا مِنْهَا مِنْ ثَمَرَةٍ رِزْقًا قَالُوا هَذَا الَّذِي رُزِقْنَا مِنْ قَبْلُ وَأُتُوا بِهِ مُتَشَابِهًا

Q 2: 25 *And give good news to those who have faith and do righteous deeds, that for them shall be gardens with streams running in them: whenever they are provided with their fruit for **nourishment**, they will say, 'This is what we were provided before,' and they were given something resembling it.*

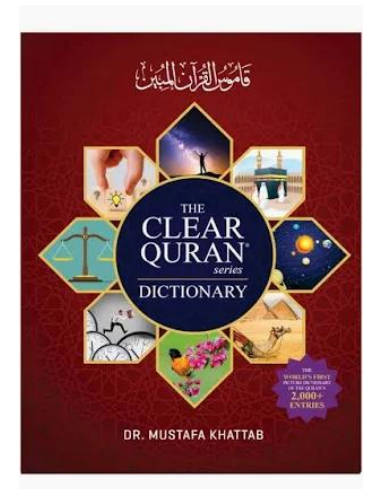
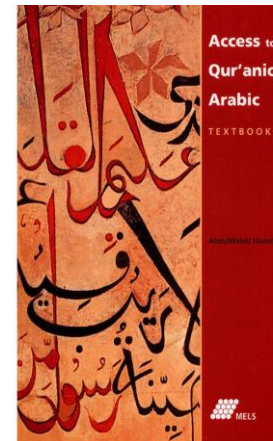
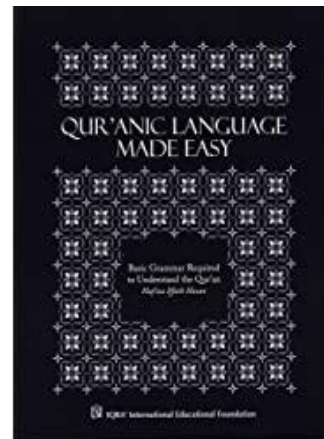
18 Quranic verses that contain demonstrative pronouns:

Q 3:51, 4:51, 6:76, 6:153, 6:155, 11:64, 12:108, 16:103, 16:116,

Q 18:98, 20:63, 26:54, 28:27, 29:64, 44:22, 50:2, 53:56, 61:6.

Textbooks for the course

Ali Quli Qarai	Hafiza Iffath Hasan	AbdulWahid Hamid	Dr Mustafa Khattab
The Qur'an: with a phrase-by-phrase English translation	Qur'anic Language Made Easy	Access to Qur'anic Arabic	The Clear Quran Dictionary



Next

Bismillah.