

LESSON 10

In this lesson we learn the following:

1) The present tense of the Arabic verb: The Arabic verb has only three forms. These are:

(a) the past tense which is called the *mâdi* الماضي.

(b) the present-future tense which is called the *mudâri* 'المضارع', and

(c) the imperative which is called the *amr* الأمر.

We have already learnt the *mâdi*. In this lesson we will learn the *mudâri*'. We will learn the *amr* in Lesson 14.

In the *mudâri*' one of the four letters ن ي ت ا is prefixed to the verb. We have learnt that 'he wrote' is كَتَبَ (kataba). Now 'he writes' is يَكْتُبُ (ya-ktubu). Note that يَكْتُبُ means 'he writes,' 'he is writing,' or 'he will write'.

Now let us see the difference between the forms of the *mâdi* and the *mudâri*'

كَتَبَ / يَكْتُبُ.

We have learnt that most Arabic verbs have three letters or radicals. In the *mâdi* the first radical has a *fathah*, and in the *mudâri*' it has a *sukûn*. The third radical has a *fathah* in the *mâdi* and a *dammah* in the *mudâri*'. The second radical may have any of the three vowels (*fathah*, *kasrah* or *dammah*) both in the *mâdi* as well as in the *mudâri*'.

According to the vowel of the second radical verbs are classified in six groups. We learn four of these in this lesson.

(a) a-u group: in this group the second radical has 'a' in the *mâdi* and 'u' in the *mudâri*', e.g.:

كَتَبَ 'he wrote' يَكْتُبُ 'he writes' (kataba / ya-ktubu).

قَتَلَ 'he killed' يَقْتُلُ 'he kills' (qatala / ya-qtulu).

سَجَدَ 'he performed sajdah' يَسْجُدُ 'he performs sajdah' (sajada / ya-sjudu).

(b) a-i group: in this group, the second radical has 'a' in the *mâdi* and 'i' in the *mudâri*', e.g.:

جَلَسَ 'he sat' يَجْلِسُ 'he sits' (jalasa / ya-jlisu).

ضَرَبَ 'he beat' يَضْرِبُ 'he beats' (daraba / ya-dribu).

غَسَلَ 'he washed' يَغْسِلُ 'he washes' (ghasala / ya-ghsilu).

(c) a-a group: in this group the second radical has 'a' in the *mâdi* as well as the *mudâri*, e.g. :

ذَهَبَ 'he went' يَذْهَبُ 'he goes' (dhahaba / ya-dhhabu).

فَتَحَ 'he opened' يَفْتَحُ 'he opens' (fataha / ya-ftahu).

قَرَأَ 'he read' يَقْرَأُ 'he reads' (qara'a / ya-qra'u).

(d) i-a group: in this group the second radical has 'i' in the *mâdi* and 'a' in the *mudâri*, e.g. :

فَهِمَ 'he understood' يَفْهَمُ 'he understands' (fahima / ya-fhamu).

شَرِبَ 'he drank' يَشْرِبُ 'he drinks' (shariba / ya-shrabu).

حَفِظَ 'he memorized' يَحْفَظُ 'he memorizes' (hafiza / ya-hfazu).

As there is no rule to determine the group of a verb the student should learn the group of each new verb he learns. All good dictionaries mention this. While expressing a verb usually both the *mâdi* and the *mudâri* are mentioned together. If you are asked the Arabic for 'to write' you say: كَتَبَ يَكْتُبُ.

2) Numbers from 21 to 30 : The two parts of the numbers are joined by و, e.g.

وَاحِدٌ وَعِشْرُونَ طَالِبًا. Note that:

(a) the first part of these numbers has *tamwîn*, e.g. :

وَاحِدٌ وَعِشْرُونَ، ثَلَاثَةٌ وَعِشْرُونَ، أَرْبَعَةٌ وَعِشْرُونَ، ... تِسْعَةٌ وَعِشْرُونَ

The word اِثْنَانٌ, of course, has no *tamwîn*.

(b) اِحْدٌ and اِثْنَانٌ are masculine with the masculine *ma'dûd*. But the numbers from 3 to 9 are feminine, e.g. :

وَاحِدٌ وَعِشْرُونَ رَجُلًا، اِثْنَانٌ وَعِشْرُونَ رَجُلًا، ثَلَاثَةٌ وَعِشْرُونَ رَجُلًا، أَرْبَعَةٌ وَعِشْرُونَ رَجُلًا
رَجُلًا، خَمْسَةٌ وَعِشْرُونَ رَجُلًا، سِتَّةٌ وَعِشْرُونَ رَجُلًا، ... تِسْعَةٌ وَعِشْرُونَ رَجُلًا

(c) the *ma'dûd* is singular and *mansûb*.

3) 'quarter to nine': 'إِلَّا' literally means 'except'. Note that the noun after 'إِلَّا' is *mansûb*. Note also the following:

السَّاعَةُ الْوَاحِدَةُ إِلَّا عَشْرَ دَقَائِقَ 'ten minutes to one.'

السَّاعَةُ الثَّانِيَةُ إِلَّا خَمْسَ دَقَائِقَ 'five minutes to two.'

السَّاعَةُ الْخَامِسَةُ إِلَّا دَقِيقَةً وَاحِدَةً 'one minute to five.'

4) We have learnt the two meanings of لَعَلَّ in Lesson 1. These are : (a) I hope and (b) I am afraid. The first is called التَّرَجُّي and the second الإِشْفَاق. In لَعَلَّهُ يَرْجِعُ الإِشْفَاقُ it is الإِشْفَاقُ as it means 'I am afraid he will come back today late.'

5) 'between': The noun following it is *majrûr* because it is *mudâf ilaihi*, e.g.:

جَلَسَ حَامِدٌ بَيْنَ بِلَالٍ وَفَيْصَلٍ 'Hâmid sat between Bilâl and Faisal.'

بَيْنَ should be repeated with pronouns, e.g., هَذَا بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَكَ 'This is between you and me.'

Exercises

1. Answer the following questions.
2. Correct the following statements.
3. Learn the *mâdi* and the *mudâri*.
4. Write the *mudâri* of the following verbs with full vocalization as shown in the example.
5. Fill in the blanks with suitable verbs in the *mudâri*.
6. Learn the numbers from 21 to 30.
7. Read the following sentences and then write them replacing the figures with words.
8. Learn the following.
9. Use each of the following words in a sentence.

Vocabulary:

دَائِمًا	always	مَكْتَبٌ	office
أَحْيَانًا	sometimes	عَامِلٌ	labourer
مَرَّةً أُخْرَى	once again	طُولٌ	length

عَرْضٌ	width	سَجَدَ يَسْجُدُ	(a-u) to perform sajdah
مَسَافَةٌ	distance	فَعَلَ يَفْعَلُ	(a-a) to do
كِيلُومِترٌ	kilometre	رَكَبَ يَرْكَبُ	(i-a) to ride
سِنْتِيمِترٌ	centimetre	بَيْنَ	between
مِترٌ	metre	بَيْنَهُمَا	between them
عَمِلَ يَعْمَلُ	(i-a) to work		
رَكَعَ يَرْكَعُ	(a-a) to bow in prayer		