Pronouns and Enclitic Pronouns (T §12; 15)
The Verb كانَ

الضمائرُ
الفِعلُ كانَ

In this lesson you will learn:

- Pronouns (ضمائر) and their usage
  - Independent pronouns
  - Enclitic pronouns
- The verb كانَ

Prerequisite: you understand nominal sentences, basic principles of forming plural nouns

Pronouns in Arabic (الضَمائِرُ)

- Independent pronouns: used for subjects and predicates in nominal sentences (i.e., sentences without verbs)
- Enclitic or attached pronouns:
  - Possessive pronouns
  - Direct objects of verbs
  - Complements of prepositions and some particles

Independent Pronouns

	SINGULAR	DUAL	PLURAL
3 m	هو *huwa*	هما *humā*	هم *hum(u)*
f	هى *hiya*	هما *humā*	هن *hunna*
2 m	انت *'anta*	انتما *'antumā*	انتم *'antum(u)*
f	انت *'anti*	انتما *'antumā*	انتن *'antunna*
1 c[5]	انا *'ana*[6]	— (lacking)	نحن *naḥnu*

Independent Pronouns: Form

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Person	Singular	Plural
3 masculine	هُوَ	هُم
3 feminine	هِيَ	هُنَّ
2 masculine	أَنتَ	أَنتُم
2 feminine	أَنتِ	أَنتُنَّ
1 common gender	أَنا	نَحنُ

Independent Pronouns: Form

Person	Singular	Plural
3 masculine	هُوَ	هُم
3 feminine	هِيَ	هُنَّ
2 masculine	أَنتَ	أَنتُم
2 feminine	أَنتِ	أَنتُنَّ
1 common gender	أَنا	نَحنُ

Independent Pronouns: Usage

Independent pronouns: used for subjects and predicates in nominal sentences (i.e., sentences without verbs)

Examples:

(he is a king) **هُوَ** مَلِكٌ

(she is the daughter of the king) **هِيَ** بِنتُ المَلِكِ

(we are the astrologers of the king) **نَحنُ** مُنَجِّمو المَلِكِ

Enclitic Pronouns

	SINGULAR		DUAL		PLURAL	
3 m.	ـه	*-hu/-hi*	ـهما	*-humā/-himā*	ـهم	*-hum(u)/-him(u)*
f.	ـها	*-hā*	ـهما	*-humā/-himā*	ـهن	*-hunna/-hinna*
2 m.	ـك	*-ka*	ـكما	*-kumā*	ـكم	*-kum(u)*
f.	ـك	*-ki*	ـكما	*-kumā*	ـكن	*-kunna*
1 c.	ـى	*-ī/-iya/-ya*	— —		ـنا	*-nā*

Enclitic Pronouns: Form

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These pronouns attach to the ends of words (nouns, prepositions, and verbs)

Person	Singular	Plural
3 masculine	هُ / هُ	هُم / هُم
3 feminine	ها / ها	هُنَّ / هُنَّ
2 masculine	كَ	كُم
2 feminine	كِ	كُنَّ
1 common gender	ي / يَ	نا

Enclitic Pronouns: Form

These pronouns attach at the ends of words (nouns, prepositions, and verbs)

Person	Singular	Plural
3 masculine	هُ / هُ	هُمْ / هُمْ
3 feminine	ها / ها	هُنَّ / هُنَّ
2 masculine	كَ	كُمْ
2 feminine	كِ	كُنَّ
1 common gender	ي / يَ	نا

Enclitic Pronouns: Usage

- Possessive pronouns

كِتابُهُم (their book) كِتابُ + **هُم**

قَوَتُهُ (his strength) قَوَةُ + **هُ**

- Direct object of verbs

أَعانَهُ (he encouraged him) أَعانَ + **هُ**

- Complement of prepositions/some particles

يُعجَبُ بِهِ (he is amazed by it) بِ + **هِ**

The Verb كانَ

- Translation: "he/it was" (3 masc. form)
- Complement: always in مَنصوب ("accusative")
- In Arabic, the main verb typically begins the sentence, followed by the subject

Examples

كانَ رَجُلا (he was a man)

كانَ عَزيزَ المَملَكةِ (he was mighty of kingship)

مع سلامة!