# Lesson Seven: The Present Tense Verb
## in the State of Jazm [جَزْم]

PRINCIPLE ONE

The following five particles, when placed before the *present tense verb*, cause it to enter the *state* of *jazm* (جَزْم)[20]:

1) إِنْ
2) لَمْ
3) لَمَّا
4) لِ[21]
5) لاَ[22]

PRINCIPLE TWO

Recall that changes in *grammatical state* are reflected at the end of a word by either (1) changes in voweling or (2) changes in lettering. If the *present tense verb* ends with a *dammah* ( ُ ) in the *state* of *rafa'* (رَفْع), the *dammah* is changed to a *sukūn* ( ْ ) to reflect the *state* of *jazm* (جَزْم). If the verb ends in a *nūn* ( ن ) in the *state* of *rafa'* (رَفْع), the *nūn* ( ن ) is dropped to reflect the *state* of *jazm* (جَزْم) [*table 7.1*].

PRINCIPLE THREE

The two *stateless* (مَبْنِي) conjugations of the *present tense verb* (i.e., the second and third person feminine plurals) never enter *states* (*lesson five*,

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[20] These particles do not have independent meaning. When placed before the *present tense verb*, they act to alter its meaning. Refer to higher-level books of Arabic grammar for a discussion of how each of these particles changes the meaning of a verb.

[21] This particle is called, " *lām al-amr* " (the *lām of command*).

[22] This particle is called, " *lām al-nahy* " (the *lām of prohibition*). It differs in meaning from the لاَ used to negate the *present tense verb*, which is called " *lām al-nafy* " (the *lām of negation*).

*principle five*). The five particles that cause the *state* of *jazm* (جَزْم) do not alter these two conjugations, and the final *nūn* on each of these conjugations does not drop from the end of the verb (*table 7.1*).

### PRINCIPLE FOUR

The particle لَمْ is used as a model to illustrate the *state* of *jazm* (جَزْم). This particle changes the verb from its default *state* of *rafa'* (رَفْع) to the *state* of *jazm* (جَزْم). Furthermore, it alters the meaning of the verb by (1) changing the present tense to the past tense and (2) negating it. Thus يَفْعَلُ (*he does*) becomes لَمْ يَفْعَلْ (*he did not do*).

### ESSENTIAL NOTE

The conjugations of the *present tense verb* in the *state* of *jazm* (جَزْم) must be memorized (*table 7.2*) before moving to the next lesson.

# TABLE 7.1

## EXPRESSING THE *STATE* OF *JAZM*

| VERB IN ORIGINAL *RAFA'* | SIGN OF *RAFA'* | | PARTICLE CAUSING *JAZM* | MEANS OF SHOWING *JAZM* | | ACTIVE VOICE IN *JAZM* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| يَفْعَلُ <br> He/It (S/M) does | Final *dammah* | + | لَمْ | Change final *dammah* to *sukūn* | ⇨ | لَمْ يَفْعَلْ <br> He/It (S/M) did not do |
| يَفْعَلَانِ <br> They (D/M) do | Final *nūn* | + | لَمْ | Drop final *nūn* | ⇨ | لَمْ يَفْعَلَا <br> They (D/M) did not do |
| يَفْعَلُوْنَ <br> They (P/M) do | Final *nūn* | + | لَمْ | Drop final *nūn* | ⇨ | لَمْ يَفْعَلُوْا <br> They (P/M) did not do |
| تَفْعَلُ <br> She/It (S/F) does | Final *dammah* | + | لَمْ | Change final *dammah* to *sukūn* | ⇨ | لَمْ تَفْعَلْ <br> She/It (S/F) did not do |
| تَفْعَلَانِ <br> They (D/F) do | Final *nūn* | + | لَمْ | Drop final *nūn* | ⇨ | لَمْ تَفْعَلَا <br> They (D/F) did not do |
| يَفْعَلْنَ <br> They (P/F) do | Stateless (مَبْنِي) | + | لَمْ | No change | ⇨ | لَمْ يَفْعَلْنَ <br> They (P/F) did not do |
| تَفْعَلُ <br> You (S/M) do | Final *dammah* | + | لَمْ | Change final *dammah* to *sukūn* | ⇨ | لَمْ تَفْعَلْ <br> You (S/M) did not do |
| تَفْعَلَانِ <br> You (D/M) do | Final *nūn* | + | لَمْ | Drop final *nūn* | ⇨ | لَمْ تَفْعَلَا <br> You (D/M) did not do |
| تَفْعَلُوْنَ <br> You (P/M) do | Final *nūn* | + | لَمْ | Drop final *nūn* | ⇨ | لَمْ تَفْعَلُوْا <br> You (P/M) did not do |
| تَفْعَلِيْنَ <br> You (S/F) do | Final *nūn* | + | لَمْ | Drop final *nūn* | ⇨ | لَمْ تَفْعَلِيْ <br> You (S/F) did not do |
| تَفْعَلَانِ <br> You (D/F) do | Final *nūn* | + | لَمْ | Drop final *nūn* | ⇨ | لَمْ تَفْعَلَا <br> You (D/F) did not do |
| تَفْعَلْنَ <br> You (P/F) do | Stateless (مَبْنِي) | + | لَمْ | No change | ⇨ | لَمْ تَفْعَلْنَ <br> You (P/F) did not do |
| أَفْعَلُ <br> I do | Final *dammah* | + | لَمْ | Change final *dammah* to *sukūn* | ⇨ | لَمْ أَفْعَلْ <br> I did not do |
| نَفْعَلُ <br> We do | Final *dammah* | + | لَمْ | Change final *dammah* to *sukūn* | ⇨ | لَمْ نَفْعَلْ <br> We did not do |

## *TABLE 7.2*

### THE *PRESENT TENSE VERB* IN THE *STATE* OF *JAZM*

| PASSIVE VOICE IN *JAZM* | ACTIVE VOICE IN *JAZM* |
|---|---|
| لَمْ يُفْعَلْ | لَمْ يَفْعَلْ |
| He/It (S/M) was not done | He/It (S/M) did not do |
| لَمْ يُفْعَلاَ | لَمْ يَفْعَلاَ |
| They (D/M) were not done | They (D/M) did not do |
| لَمْ يُفْعَلُوْا | لَمْ يَفْعَلُوْا |
| They (P/M) were not done | They (P/M) did not do |
| لَمْ تُفْعَلْ | لَمْ تَفْعَلْ |
| She/It (S/F) was not done | She/It (S/F) did not do |
| لَمْ تُفْعَلاَ | لَمْ تَفْعَلاَ |
| They (D/F) were not done | They (D/F) did not do |
| لَمْ فْعَلْنَ | لَمْ يَفْعَلْنَ |
| They (P/F) were not done | They (P/F) did not do |
| لَمْ تُفْعَلْ | لَمْ تَفْعَلْ |
| You (S/M) were not done | You (S/M) did not do |
| لَمْ تُفْعَلاَ | لَمْ تَفْعَلاَ |
| You (D/M) were not done | You (D/M) did not do |
| لَمْ تُفْعَلُوْا | لَمْ تَفْعَلُوْا |
| You (P/M) were not done | You (P/M) did not do |
| لَمْ تُفْعَلِيْ | لَمْ تَفْعَلِيْ |
| You (S/F) were not done | You (S/F) did not do |
| لَمْ تُفْعَلاَ | لَمْ تَفْعَلاَ |
| You (D/F) were not done | You (D/F) did not do |
| لَمْ تُفْعَلْنَ | لَمْ تَفْعَلْنَ |
| You (P/F) were not done | You (P/F) did not do |
| لَمْ أُفْعَلْ | لَمْ أَفْعَلْ |
| I was not done | I did not do |
| لَمْ نُفْعَلْ | لَمْ نَفْعَلْ |
| We were not done | We did not do |

M=Masculine        F=Feminine        S=Singular        D=Dual        P=Plural