Lesson Nine: The Command
[اَلأَمْر]

The *command* (اَلأَمْر) is used to demand an act. For example, اِفْعَلْ means, "do!" and لِيَفْعَلْ means, "he must do!" All conjugations of the *command* are derived from the *present tense verb* in the state of *jazm* (جَزْم). Active voice conjugations of the *command* reflect the person, gender, and plurality of the individual commanded. For example, لِيَفْعَلُوا means, "they must do!" Passive voice conjugations of the *command* reflect the person, gender, and plurality of the *object* of the command. For example, لِيُفْعَلُوا means, "they (e.g., those tasks) must be done!"

PRINCIPLE ONE
The *command* is formed from the *present tense verb* in two distinct ways. In the case of the active voice of the first and third person, the *command* is made by placing the particle " ل " before the *present tense verb* (*table 9.1*). This particle is called the *lām of command* (لاَم اَلأَمْر) and it is one of five particles that cause *present tense verb*s to enter the *state* of *jazm* (جَزْم) [*lesson seven, principle one*]. For example, يَفْعَلُ (*he does*) becomes لِيَفْعَلْ (*he must do!*).

PRINCIPLE TWO
Active voice conjugations of the second person *command* are created by (1) placing the second person *present tense verb* in the state of *jazm*, (2) replacing the initial *tā'* of the second person with a *hamzah* (seated on an *'alif*), and (3) voweling this *hamzah* with a *kasrah* [26] (*table 9.2*). For example, تَفْعَلُ (*you do*) becomes اِفْعَلْ (*do!*).

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[26] In some cases, the *hamzah* is voweled with a *dammah*. This occurs when the letter at the *'ain* position of the *present tense verb* is also voweled with a *dammah*. Such patterns are covered in *Lesson Sixteen*. For example, يَنْصُرُ (*he helps*), becomes اُنْصُرْ (*help!*). See *table 16.3*, *verb form I*, types A and E.

PRINCIPLE THREE

All passive voice conjugations of the *command*, including the second person, are formed by placing the *lām of command* (لِ) before passive voice conjugations of the *present tense verb*. For example, تُفْعَلُ (*you are being done*) becomes لِتُفْعَلْ (*be done!*) [*table 9.3*].

THE EMPHATIC COMMAND

The *emphatic command* is used to forcefully demand an act. For example, اِفْعَلَنَّ means, "verily do!" and لِيَفْعَلَنَّ means, "verily he must do!" All conjugations of the *emphatic command* are derived from the *emphatic*. Active voice conjugations of the *emphatic command* reflect the person, gender, and plurality of the individual commanded. For example, لِيَفْعَلُنَّ means, "verily they must do!" Passive voice conjugations of the *emphatic command* reflect the person, gender, and plurality of the *object* of the command. For example, لِيُفْعَلُنَّ means, "verily they (e.g., those tasks) must be done!"

PRINCIPLE FOUR

The *emphatic command* is formed from the *emphatic* in two distinct ways. In the case of the active voice of the first and third person, the *emphatic command* is formed by (1) removing the *lām of emphasis* (لَ) from the *emphatic* and (2) replacing it with the *lām of command* (لِ). Because all forms of the *emphatic* are *stateless* (مَبْنِي), this *lām* does not change the state of the verb. However, the verb's meaning changes from the emphatic to the emphatic command. For example, لَيَفْعَلَنَّ (*verily he will do!*) becomes لِيَفْعَلَنَّ (*verily he must do!*).

PRINCIPLE FIVE

Active voice conjugations of the second person *emphatic command* are formed by (1) removing the " لَ " from the beginning of the *emphatic*, (2) replacing the initial *tā'* of the second person with a *hamzah* (seated on an

'alif), and (3) voweling this *hamzah* with a *kasrah*. [27] For example, لَتَفْعَلَنَّ (*verily you will do!*) becomes اِفْعَلَنَّ (*verily do!*).

PRINCIPLE SIX

All passive voice conjugations of the *emphatic command*, including the second person, are formed by replacing the *lām of emphasis* (لَ) with the *lām of command* (لِ). For example, لَتُفْعَلَنَّ (*verily you will be done!*) becomes لِتُفْعَلَنَّ (*verily be done!*) [*table 9.3*].

ESSENTIAL NOTE

The conjugations of the *command* and the *emphatic command* must be memorized (*table 9.3*) before moving to the next lesson.

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[27] In some cases, this *hamzah* is voweled with a *dammah*. See footnote 26.

TABLE 9.1

CREATING THE FIRST AND THIRD PERSON ACTIVE VOICE *COMMAND*

VERB IN ORIGINAL *RAF'A*	SIGN OF *RAF'A*		*LĀM OF COMMAND* CAUSING *JAZM*	MEANS OF EXPRESSING *JAZM*		ACTIVE VOICE *COMMAND*
يَفْعَلُ He *or* It (S/M) does	Final *dammah*	+	لِ	Change final *dammah* to *sukūn*	⇨	لِيَفْعَلْ He/It (S/M) must do!
يَفْعَلاَنِ They (D/M) do	Final *nūn*	+	لِ	Drop final *nūn*	⇨	لِيَفْعَلاَ They (D/M) must do!
يَفْعَلُوْنَ They (P/M) do	Final *nūn*	+	لِ	Drop final *nūn*	⇨	لِيَفْعَلُوْا They (P/M) must do!
تَفْعَلُ She *or* It (S/F) does	Final *dammah*	+	لِ	Change final *dammah* to *sukūn*	⇨	لِتَفْعَلْ She/It (S/F) must do!
تَفْعَلاَنِ They (D/F) do	Final *nūn*	+	لِ	Drop final *nūn*	⇨	لِتَفْعَلاَ They (D/F) must do!
يَفْعَلْنَ They (P/F) do	*Stateless* (مَبْنِي)	+	لِ	No change	⇨	لِيَفْعَلْنَ They (P/F) must do!
أَفْعَلُ I do	Final *dammah*	+	لِ	Change final *dammah* to *sukūn*	⇨	لِأَفْعَلْ I must do!
نَفْعَلُ We do	Final *dammah*	+	لِ	Change final *dammah* to *sukūn*	⇨	لِنَفْعَلْ We must do!

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

TABLE 9.2

CREATING THE SECOND PERSON[28] ACTIVE VOICE *COMMAND*

PRESENT TENSE IN JAZM	STEP ONE		STEP TWO		ACTIVE VOICE *COMMAND*
تَفْعَلْ You (S/M)	Remove the initial *ta'*	+	Add a *hamzah* (seated on an *'alif*) with a *kasrah* to the beginning of the verb	⇨	اِفْعَلْ [You] Do! (S/M)
تَفْعَلاَ You (D/M)	Remove the initial *ta'*	+	Add a *hamzah* (seated on an *'alif*) with a *kasrah* to the beginning of the verb	⇨	اِفْعَلاَ [You] Do! (D/M)
تَفْعَلُوْا You (P/M)	Remove the initial *ta'*	+	Add a *hamzah* (seated on an *'alif*) with a *kasrah* to the beginning of the verb	⇨	اِفْعَلُوْا [You] Do! (P/M)
تَفْعَلِيْ You (S/F)	Remove the initial *ta'*	+	Add a *hamzah* (seated on an *'alif*) with a *kasrah* to the beginning of the verb	⇨	اِفْعَلِيْ [You] Do! (S/F)
تَفْعَلاَ You (D/F)	Remove the initial *ta'*	+	Add a *hamzah* (seated on an *'alif*) with a *kasrah* to the beginning of the verb	⇨	اِفْعَلاَ [You] Do! (D/F)
تَفْعَلْنَ You (P/F)	Remove the initial *tā'*	+	Add a *hamzah* (seated on an *'alif*) with a *kasrah* to the beginning of the verb	⇨	اِفْعَلْنَ [You] Do! (P/F)

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

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[28] Recall that the second person is used to refer to the individual *spoken to*. Therefore, each of the conjugations listed in *table 9.2* directly commands an individual or a group of individuals. For example, اِفْعَلاَ (*do!*) commands two individuals to perform an action (i.e., *you two do!*).

TABLE 9.3
THE COMMAND

PASSIVE VOICE EMPHATIC	ACTIVE VOICE EMPHATIC	PASSIVE VOICE	ACTIVE VOICE
لِيُفْعَلَنَّ	لِيَفْعَلَنَّ	لِيُفْعَلْ	لِيَفْعَلْ
Verily he/it (S/M) must be done!	Verily he/it (S/M) must do!	He/It (S/M) must be done!	He/It (S/M) must do!
لِيُفْعَلاَنِّ	لِيَفْعَلاَنِّ	لِيُفْعَلاَ	لِيَفْعَلاَ
Verily they (D/M) must be done!	Verily they (D/M) must do!	They (D/M) must be done!	They (D/M) must do!
لِيُفْعَلُنَّ	لِيَفْعَلُنَّ	لِيُفْعَلُوْا	لِيَفْعَلُوْا
Verily they (P/M) must be done!	Verily they (P/M) must do!	They (P/M) must be done!	They (P/M) must do!
لِتُفْعَلَنَّ	لِتَفْعَلَنَّ	لِتُفْعَلْ	لِتَفْعَلْ
Verily she/it (S/F) must be done!	Verily she/it (S/F) must do!	She/It (S/F) must be done!	She/It (S/F) must do!
لِتُفْعَلاَنِّ	لِتَفْعَلاَنِّ	لِتُفْعَلاَ	لِتَفْعَلاَ
Verily they (D/F) must be done!	Verily they (D/F) must do!	They (D/F) must be done!	They (D/F) must do!
لِيُفْعَلْنَانِّ	لِيَفْعَلْنَانِّ	لِيُفْعَلْنَ	لِيَفْعَلْنَ
Verily they (P/F) must be done!	Verily they (P/F) must do!	They (P/F) must be done!	They (P/F) must do!
لِتُفْعَلَنَّ	اِفْعَلَنَّ	لِتُفْعَلْ	اِفْعَلْ
Verily [you] be done! (S/M)	Verily [you] do! (S/M)	[You] Be done! (S/M)	[You] Do! (S/M)
لِتُفْعَلاَنِّ	اِفْعَلاَنِّ	لِتُفْعَلاَ	اِفْعَلاَ
Verily [you] be done! (D/M)	Verily [you] do! (D/M)	[You] Be done! (D/M)	[You] Do! (D/M)
لِتُفْعَلُنَّ	اِفْعَلُنَّ	لِتُفْعَلُوْا	اِفْعَلُوْا
Verily [you] be done! (P/M)	Verily [you] do! (P/M)	[You] Be done! (P/M)	[You] Do! (P/M)
لِتُفْعَلِنَّ	اِفْعَلِنَّ	لِتُفْعَلِيْ	اِفْعَلِيْ
Verily [you] be done! (S/F)	Verily [you] do! (S/F)	[You] Be done! (S/F)	[You] Do! (S/F)
لِتُفْعَلاَنِّ	اِفْعَلاَنِّ	لِتُفْعَلاَ	اِفْعَلاَ
Verily [you] be done! (D/F)	Verily [you] do! (D/F)	[You] Be done! (D/F)	[You] Do! (D/F)
لِتُفْعَلْنَانِّ	اِفْعَلْنَانِّ	لِتُفْعَلْنَ	اِفْعَلْنَ
Verily [you] be done! (P/F)	Verily [you] do! (P/F)	[You] Be done! (P/F)	[You] Do! (P/F)
لِأُفْعَلَنَّ	لِأَفْعَلَنَّ	لِأُفْعَلْ	لِأَفْعَلْ
Verily I must be done!	Verily I must do!	I must be done!	I must do!
لِنُفْعَلَنَّ	لِنَفْعَلَنَّ	لِنُفْعَلْ	لِنَفْعَلْ
Verily we must be done!	Verily we must do!	We must be done!	We must do!