

Lesson Ten: The Prohibition

[النَّهْيُ]

The *prohibition* (النَّهْيُ) is a form used to prohibit an act. For example, لَا تَفْعَلْ means, “don’t do!” All conjugations of the *prohibition* are derived from the *present tense verb* in the state of *jazm* (جَزْمٌ). Active voice conjugations of the *prohibition* reflect the person, gender, and plurality of the individual who is being prohibited. For example, لَا يَفْعَلُوا means, “they must not do!” Passive voice conjugations of the *prohibition* reflect the person, gender, and plurality of the *object* of the prohibition. For example, لَا يُفْعَلُوا means, “they (e.g., those tasks) must not be done!”

PRINCIPLE ONE

Placing the particle “ لَا ” before all conjugations of the *present tense verb* creates the *prohibition* (النَّهْيُ) [table 10.1]. This “ لَا ” is called the *lām of prohibition* (لَامُ النَّهْيِ) and it is one of five particles that cause *present tense verbs* to enter the *state of jazm* (جَزْمٌ) [lesson seven, principle one]. It also alters the meaning of the verb from the present tense to a prohibition. For example, تَفْعَلُ (you are doing) becomes لَا تَفْعَلُ (don’t do!).

THE EMPHATIC PROHIBITION

The *emphatic prohibition* is used to firmly prohibit an act. For example, لَا تَفْعَلَنَّ means, “verily don’t do!” All conjugations of the *emphatic prohibition* are derived from the *emphatic*. Active voice conjugations of the *emphatic prohibition* reflect the person, gender, and plurality of the individual who is being prohibited. For example, لَا يَفْعَلَنَّ means, “verily they must not do!” Passive voice conjugations of the *emphatic prohibition* reflect the person, gender, and plurality of the *object* of the prohibition. For example, لَا يُفْعَلَنَّ means, “verily they (e.g., those tasks) must not be done!”

PRINCIPLE TWO

The *emphatic prohibition* is formed by (1) removing the *lām of emphasis* (لَ) from all conjugations of the *emphatic* and (2) replacing it with the *lām of prohibition* (لَا). Because all forms of the *emphatic* are *stateless* (مَبْنِي), this does not change the *grammatical state* of the verb. However, the verb's meaning changes from the *emphatic* to the *emphatic prohibition*. For example, *لَتَفْعَلَنَّ* (*verily you will do!*) becomes *لَا تَفْعَلَنَّ* (*verily don't do!*).

ESSENTIAL NOTE

The conjugations of the *prohibition* and the *emphatic prohibition* must be memorized (*table 10.1*) before moving to the next lesson.

TABLE 10.1
THE PROHIBITION

PASSIVE VOICE EMPHATIC	ACTIVE VOICE EMPHATIC	PASSIVE VOICE	ACTIVE VOICE
لَا يُفَعَّلَنَّ Verily he/it (S/M) must not be done!	لَا يَفْعَلَنَّ Verily he/it (S/M) must not do!	لَا يُفَعَّلُ He/It (S/M) must not be done!	لَا يَفْعَلُ He/It (S/M) must not do!
لَا يُفَعَّلَانَّ Verily they (D/M) must not be done!	لَا يَفْعَلَانَّ Verily they (D/M) must not do!	لَا يُفَعَّلَا They (D/M) must not be done!	لَا يَفْعَلَا They (D/M) must not do!
لَا يُفَعَّلْنَ Verily they (P/M) must not be done!	لَا يَفْعَلْنَ Verily they (P/M) must not do!	لَا يُفَعَّلُوا They (P/M) must not be done!	لَا يَفْعَلُوا They (P/M) must not do!
لَا تُفَعَّلَنَّ Verily she/it (S/F) must not be done!	لَا تَفْعَلَنَّ Verily she/it (S/F) must not do!	لَا تُفَعَّلُ She/It (S/F) must not be done!	لَا تَفْعَلُ She/It (S/F) must not do!
لَا تُفَعَّلَانَّ Verily they (D/F) must not be done!	لَا تَفْعَلَانَّ Verily they (D/F) must not do!	لَا تُفَعَّلَا They (D/F) must not be done!	لَا تَفْعَلَا They (D/F) must not do!
لَا يُفَعَّلَنَّ Verily they (P/F) must not be done!	لَا يَفْعَلَنَّ Verily they (P/F) must not do!	لَا يُفَعَّلْنَ They (P/F) must not be done!	لَا يَفْعَلْنَ They (P/F) must not do!
لَا تُفَعَّلَنَّ Verily don't [you] be done! (S/M)	لَا تَفْعَلَنَّ Verily don't [you] do! (S/M)	لَا تُفَعَّلُ Don't [you] be done! (S/M)	لَا تَفْعَلُ Don't [you] do! (S/M)
لَا تُفَعَّلَانَّ Verily don't [you] be done! (D/M)	لَا تَفْعَلَانَّ Verily don't [you] do! (D/M)	لَا تُفَعَّلَا Don't [you] be done! (D/M)	لَا تَفْعَلَا Don't [you] do! (D/M)
لَا تُفَعَّلْنَ Verily don't [you] be done! (P/M)	لَا تَفْعَلْنَ Verily don't [you] do! (P/M)	لَا تُفَعَّلُوا Don't [you] be done! (P/M)	لَا تَفْعَلُوا Don't [you] do! (P/M)
لَا تُفَعَّلَنَّ Verily don't [you] be done! (S/F)	لَا تَفْعَلَنَّ Verily don't [you] do! (S/F)	لَا تُفَعَّلِي Don't [you] be done! (S/F)	لَا تَفْعَلِي Don't [you] do! (S/F)
لَا تُفَعَّلَانَّ Verily don't [you] be done! (D/F)	لَا تَفْعَلَانَّ Verily don't [you] do! (D/F)	لَا تُفَعَّلَا Don't [you] be done! (D/F)	لَا تَفْعَلَا Don't [you] do! (D/F)
لَا تُفَعَّلَنَّ Verily don't [you] be done! (P/F)	لَا تَفْعَلَنَّ Verily don't [you] do! (P/F)	لَا تُفَعَّلْنَ Don't [you] be done! (P/F)	لَا تَفْعَلْنَ Don't [you] do! (P/F)
لَا أُفَعَّلَنَّ Verily I must not be done!	لَا أُفَعَّلَنَّ Verily I must not do!	لَا أُفَعَّلُ I must not be done!	لَا أُفَعَّلُ I must not do!
لَا نُفَعَّلَنَّ Verily we must not be done!	لَا نَفْعَلَنَّ Verily we must not do!	لَا نُفَعَّلُ We must not be done!	لَا نَفْعَلُ We must not do!