

## Lesson Nine: The Command

### [الأمر]

The *command* (الأمر) is used to demand an act. For example, افْعَلْ means, “do!” and يَفْعَلْ means, “he must do!” All conjugations of the *command* are derived from the *present tense verb* in the state of *jazm* (جَزَمَ). Active voice conjugations of the *command* reflect the person, gender, and plurality of the individual commanded. For example, يَفْعَلُوا means, “they must do!” Passive voice conjugations of the *command* reflect the person, gender, and plurality of the *object* of the command. For example, يُفْعَلُوا 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* (لَامُ الْأَمْرِ) and it is one of five particles that cause *present tense verbs* to enter the state of *jazm* (جَزَمَ) [lesson seven, principle one]. For example, يَفْعَلُ (he does) becomes يَفْعَلْ (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) vowelizing this *hamzah* with a *kasrah*<sup>26</sup> (table 9.2). For example, تَفْعَلُ (you do) becomes افْعَلْ (do!).

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<sup>26</sup> In some cases, the *hamzah* is vowelized with a *dammah*. This occurs when the letter at the *‘ain* position of the *present tense verb* is also vowelized with a *dammah*. Such patterns are covered in Lesson Sixteen. For example, يَنْصُرُ (he helps), becomes اَنْصُرْ (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* ( ل ) before passive voice conjugations of the *present tense verb*. For example, تُفَعَّلُ (you are being done) becomes لَتُفَعَّلْ (be done!) [table 9.3].

## THE EMPHATIC COMMAND

The *emphatic command* is used to forcefully demand an act. For example, اِفْعَلْ means, “verily do!” and لَيَفْعَلْ 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, لَيَفْعَلْنَ 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, يُفَعَّلْنَ 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* ( ل ) from the *emphatic* and (2) replacing it with the *lām of command* ( ل ). 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, لَيَفْعَلْ (verily he will do!) becomes لَيَفْعَلْ (verily he must do!).

## PRINCIPLE FIVE

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

'*alif*), and (3) vowelizing this *hamẓah* with a *kasrah*.<sup>27</sup> 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, **لَتَفْعَلَنَّ** (*verily you will be done!*) becomes **لِتَفْعَلَنَّ** (*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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<sup>27</sup> In some cases, this *hamẓah* is vowelized with a *dammah*. See footnote 26.



TABLE 9.1

CREATING THE FIRST AND THIRD PERSON ACTIVE VOICE COMMAND

VERB IN ORIGINAL RAFA	SIGN OF RAFA		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!
يَفْعَلَانِ They (D/M) do	Final nūn	+	لِ	Drop final nūn	⇒	لِيَفْعَلَا They (D/M) must do!
يَفْعَلُونَ They (P/M) do	Final nūn	+	لِ	Drop final nūn	⇒	لِيَفْعَلُوا 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!
تَفْعَلَانِ They (D/F) do	Final nūn	+	لِ	Drop final nūn	⇒	لِتَفْعَلَا 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<sup>28</sup> ACTIVE VOICE COMMAND

PRESENT TENSE IN JAZM	STEP ONE		STEP TWO		ACTIVE VOICE COMMAND
تَفْعُلْ You (S/M)	Remove the initial <i>tā'</i>	+	Add a <i>hamzah</i> (seated on an ' <i>alif</i> ') with a <i>kasrah</i> to the beginning of the verb	⇒	إِفْعُلْ [You] Do! (S/M)
تَفْعَلَا You (D/M)	Remove the initial <i>tā'</i>	+	Add a <i>hamzah</i> (seated on an ' <i>alif</i> ') with a <i>kasrah</i> to the beginning of the verb	⇒	إِفْعَلَا [You] Do! (D/M)
تَفْعَلُوا You (P/M)	Remove the initial <i>tā'</i>	+	Add a <i>hamzah</i> (seated on an ' <i>alif</i> ') with a <i>kasrah</i> to the beginning of the verb	⇒	إِفْعَلُوا [You] Do! (P/M)
تَفْعَلِي You (S/F)	Remove the initial <i>tā'</i>	+	Add a <i>hamzah</i> (seated on an ' <i>alif</i> ') with a <i>kasrah</i> to the beginning of the verb	⇒	إِفْعَلِي [You] Do! (S/F)
تَفْعَلَا You (D/F)	Remove the initial <i>tā'</i>	+	Add a <i>hamzah</i> (seated on an ' <i>alif</i> ') with a <i>kasrah</i> to the beginning of the verb	⇒	إِفْعَلَا [You] Do! (D/F)
تَفْعَلْنَ You (P/F)	Remove the initial <i>tā'</i>	+	Add a <i>hamzah</i> (seated on an ' <i>alif</i> ') with a <i>kasrah</i> to the beginning of the verb	⇒	إِفْعَلْنَ [You] Do! (P/F)

M=Masculine

F=Feminine

S=Singular

D=Dual

P=Plural

<sup>28</sup> 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, *إِفْعَلَا* (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 Verily he/it (S/M) must be done!	لِيَفْعَلَنَّ Verily he/it (S/M) must do!	لِيُفْعَلْ He/It (S/M) must be done!	لِيَفْعَلْ He/It (S/M) must do!
لِيُفْعَلَانَّ Verily they (D/M) must be done!	لِيَفْعَلَانَّ Verily they (D/M) must do!	لِيُفْعَلَا They (D/M) must be done!	لِيَفْعَلَا They (D/M) must do!
لِيُفْعَلْنَ Verily they (P/M) must be done!	لِيَفْعَلْنَ Verily they (P/M) must do!	لِيُفْعَلُوا They (P/M) must be done!	لِيَفْعَلُوا They (P/M) must do!
لِتُفْعَلَنَّ Verily she/it (S/F) must be done!	لِتَفْعَلَنَّ Verily she/it (S/F) must do!	لِتُفْعَلْ She/It (S/F) must be done!	لِتَفْعَلْ She/It (S/F) must do!
لِتُفْعَلَانَّ Verily they (D/F) must be done!	لِتَفْعَلَانَّ Verily they (D/F) must do!	لِتُفْعَلَا They (D/F) must be done!	لِتَفْعَلَا They (D/F) must do!
لِيُفْعَلْنَانَّ Verily they (P/F) must be done!	لِيَفْعَلْنَانَّ Verily they (P/F) must do!	لِيُفْعَلْنَ They (P/F) must be done!	لِيَفْعَلْنَ They (P/F) must do!
لِتُفْعَلَنَّ Verily [you] be done! (S/M)	اِفْعَلَنَّ Verily [you] do! (S/M)	لِتُفْعَلْ [You] Be done! (S/M)	اِفْعَلْ [You] Do! (S/M)
لِتُفْعَلَانَّ Verily [you] be done! (D/M)	اِفْعَلَانَّ Verily [you] do! (D/M)	لِتُفْعَلَا [You] Be done! (D/M)	اِفْعَلَا [You] Do! (D/M)
لِتُفْعَلْنَ Verily [you] be done! (P/M)	اِفْعَلْنَ Verily [you] do! (P/M)	لِتُفْعَلُوا [You] Be done! (P/M)	اِفْعَلُوا [You] Do! (P/M)
لِتُفْعَلَنَّ Verily [you] be done! (S/F)	اِفْعَلَنَّ Verily [you] do! (S/F)	لِتُفْعَلِيْ [You] Be done! (S/F)	اِفْعَلِيْ [You] Do! (S/F)
لِتُفْعَلَانَّ Verily [you] be done! (D/F)	اِفْعَلَانَّ Verily [you] do! (D/F)	لِتُفْعَلَا [You] Be done! (D/F)	اِفْعَلَا [You] Do! (D/F)
لِتُفْعَلْنَانَّ Verily [you] be done! (P/F)	اِفْعَلْنَانَّ Verily [you] do! (P/F)	لِتُفْعَلْنَ [You] Be done! (P/F)	اِفْعَلْنَ [You] Do! (P/F)
لِأَفْعَلَنَّ Verily I must be done!	لِأَفْعَلَنَّ Verily I must do!	لِأَفْعَلْ I must be done!	لِأَفْعَلْ I must do!
لِنُفْعَلَنَّ Verily we must be done!	لِنُفْعَلَنَّ Verily we must do!	لِنُفْعَلْ We must be done!	لِنُفْعَلْ We must do!



## Chapter 13: فعل الأمر

### The Command Verb فعل الأمر

The Command (فعل الأمر) refers to the request by the speaker to perform an action. For example: اكتب means "write" and اذهب means "go."

#### How to Make the Command in 4 Easy Steps:

1.	Place the verb in present tense 2 <sup>nd</sup> person form.	تَذْهَبُ
2.	Place the verb into its jussive mood.	تَذْهَبِ
3.	Remove the subject prefix from the verb.	ذْهَبِ
4.	Prefix a hamza al-wasl to the verb.	اِذْهَبِ

**Note:** The hamza al-wasl prefixed to the command verb will only take a kasrah or a dhammah. It depends on which vowel is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> radical of the verb. If the 2<sup>nd</sup> radical contains a fathah or a kasrah then the hamzah al-wasl will take a kasrah. However, if the 2<sup>nd</sup> radical contains a dhammah then the hamza al-wasl will take a dhammah.

Meaning	Prefix a hamzat al-wasl	Remove the subject prefix	مَجْزُومٌ Place in jussive mood	مُضَارِعٌ	ضَرَبَ he hit
Strike!	إِضْرِبْ	ضَرِبْ	تَضْرِبْ	تَضْرِبُ	أَنْتَ
Strike!	إِضْرِبَا	ضَرِبَا	تَضْرِبَا	تَضْرِبَانِ	أَنْتُمَا
Strike!	إِضْرِبُوا	ضَرِبُوا	تَضْرِبُوا	تَضْرِبُونَ	أَنْتُمْ
Strike!	إِضْرِبِي	ضَرِبِي	تَضْرِبِي	تَضْرِبِينَ	أَنْتِ
Strike!	إِضْرِبَا	ضَرِبَا	تَضْرِبَا	تَضْرِبَانِ	أَنْتُمَا
Strike!	إِضْرِبْنَ	ضَرِبْنَ	تَضْرِبْنَ	تَضْرِبُنِ	أَنْتُنَّ
Meaning	Prefix a hamzat al-wasl	Remove the subject prefix	مَجْزُومٌ Place in jussive mood	مُضَارِعٌ	كَتَبَ he wrote
					أَنْتَ
					أَنْتُمَا
					أَنْتُمْ
					أَنْتِ
					أَنْتُمَا
					أَنْتُنَّ



Meaning	Prefix a hamzat al- wasl	Remove the subject prefix	مَجْزُومٌ Place in jussive mood	مُضَارِعٌ	قَرَأَ he read
					أَنْتَ
					أَنْتُمَا
					أَنْتُمْ
					أَنْتِ
					أَنْتُمَا
					أَنْتُنَّ
Meaning	Prefix a hamzat al- wasl	Remove the subject prefix	مَجْزُومٌ Place in jussive mood	مُضَارِعٌ	سَكَتَ he was silent
					أَنْتَ
					أَنْتُمَا
					أَنْتُمْ
					أَنْتِ
					أَنْتُمَا
					أَنْتُنَّ

Meaning	Prefix a hamzat al- wasl	Remove the subject prefix	مَجْزُومٌ Place in jussive mood	مُضَارِعٌ	ذَهَبَ he went
					أَنْتَ
					أَنْتُمَا
					أَنْتُمْ
					أَنْتِ
					أَنْتُمَا
					أَنْتُنَّ
Meaning	Prefix a hamzat al- wasl	Remove the subject prefix	مَجْزُومٌ Place in jussive mood	مُضَارِعٌ	ذَكَرَ he recalled
					أَنْتَ
					أَنْتُمَا
					أَنْتُمْ
					أَنْتِ
					أَنْتُمَا
					أَنْتُنَّ



Meaning	Prefix a hamzat al- wasl	Remove the subject prefix	مَجْزُومٌ Place in jussive mood	مُضَارِعٌ	دَرَسَ he studied
					أَنْتَ
					أَنْتُمَا
					أَنْتُمْ
					أَنْتِ
					أَنْتُمَا
					أَنْتُنَّ
Meaning	Prefix a hamzat al- wasl	Remove the subject prefix	مَجْزُومٌ Place in jussive mood	مُضَارِعٌ	جَلَسَ he sat
					أَنْتَ
					أَنْتُمَا
					أَنْتُمْ
					أَنْتِ
					أَنْتُمَا
					أَنْتُنَّ

عَيْنٍ وَتَرْجِمُ فِعْلَ الْأَمْرِ فِي الْآيَاتِ التَّالِيَةِ:

قَالَ يَتَابَتِ أَفْعَلٌ مَا تُؤْمَرُ<sup>ط</sup> (37:102)

افْعَلْ – Do!

وَأَذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا لَّعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ ﴿٨٥﴾ (8:45)

فَاعْلَمْ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَاسْتَغْفِرْ لِذَنْبِكَ وَلِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ<sup>ق</sup> (47:19)

فَفَاعِلُوا مَا تُؤْمَرُونَ ﴿٦٨﴾ (2:68)

وَأَسْمَعُوا وَأَطِيعُوا وَأَنْفِقُوا خَيْرًا لِّأَنْفُسِكُمْ<sup>ق</sup> (64:16)

وَأَشْكُرُوا لِلَّهِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ إِيَّاهُ تَعْبُدُونَ ﴿١٧٢﴾ (2:172)



﴿فَقُلْنَا اضْرِبْ بِعَصَاكَ الْحَجَرَ﴾

“We said: ‘*Strike* the (porous) rock with your staff.’”  
(2:60)

﴿وَإِذْ قُلْنَا لِلْمَلَائِكَةِ اسْجُدُوا لِآدَمَ﴾

“And when We (Allah) said to the angels, ‘*Bow down* before Adam,’” (2:34)

﴿وَقُلْنَا يَتَادَمُ اسْكُنْ أَنْتَ وَزَوْجُكَ﴾

“We said: ‘O Adam! You and your wife, *dwell* in the garden.’” (2:35)

﴿وَقُلْنَا اهْبِطُوا بَعْضُكُمْ لِبَعْضٍ عَدُوٌّ﴾

“We said: ‘*Go down*, some of you will be the enemies of others.’” (2:36)

﴿فَاذْكُرُونِي أَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوا لِي وَلَا تَكْفُرُونِ﴾

“So *remember* Me I will remember you and *be grateful* to Me and do not be ungrateful to Me.” (2:152)

﴿فَاعْمَلُوا مَا تُؤْمَرُونَ﴾

“So *do* what you are ordered to do.” (2:68)

﴿فَإِنْ قَاتَلْتُمُوهُمْ فَاقْتُلُوهُمْ﴾

“But if they fight with you then *slay* them.” (2:191)

﴿ اذْهَبَا إِلَىٰ فِرْعَوْنَ إِنَّهُ طَغَىٰ ﴾

“Both go to Fir’awn, he has certainly rebelled.” (20:43)

﴿ فَادْخُلِي فِي عِبَادِي ﴾

“So enter among My servants.” (89:29)

﴿ وَأَعِظْ عَنَّا وَاعْفِرْ لَنَا وَرَحِمْنَا أَنْتَ مَوْلَانَا فَانصُرْنَا عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْكَافِرِينَ ﴾

“And *pardon us*, and *protectively forgive us*, and *have mercy on us*, You are our Guardian so help us against the people who are infidels.” (2:286)

### IMPERATIVE FORM OF HAMZATED VERBS:

*First Radical Hamza:*

The imperative is formed by removing the sign of the imperfect tense, “ت”. The first radical *hamza* of the word will also be dropped. No prefix (*hamza*) is used to make the الأَمْر of such verbs.

The imperative form of أَكَل:

	مفرد Singular	مثنى Dual	جمع Plural
مذكر مخاطب 2 <sup>nd</sup> person masculine	كُلْ Eat	كُلَا Eat (you both)	كُلُوا Eat (you all)
مؤنث مخاطب 2 <sup>nd</sup> person feminine	كُلِي Eat	كُلَا Eat (you both)	كُلْنَ Eat (you all)