

## 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* (جَزْم). 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* (جَزْم) [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* (ل) from all conjugations of the *emphatic* and (2) replacing it with the *lām of prohibition* (لا). 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, تَفْعَلَنَّ (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 يُفَعِّلَنَّ Verily he/it (S/M) must not be done!	لَا يَفْعَلَنَّ Verily he/it (S/M) must not do!	لَا يُفَعَّلْ He/It (S/M) must not be done!	لَا يَفْعَلْ He/It (S/M) must not do!
لَا يُفَعِّلَانَّ 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 يُفَعِّلْنَ 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 تُفَعِّلَنَّ Verily she/it (S/F) must not be done!	لَا تَفْعَلَنَّ Verily she/it (S/F) must not do!	لَا تُفَعَّلْ She/It (S/F) must not be done!	لَا تَفْعَلْ She/It (S/F) must not do!
لَا تُفَعِّلَانَّ 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 يُفَعِّلَنَّا Verily they (P/F) must not be done!	لَا يَفْعَلَنَّا Verily they (P/F) must not do!	لَا يُفَعَّلَنْ They (P/F) must not be done!	لَا يَفْعَلَنْ They (P/F) must not do!
لَا تُفَعِّلَنَّ Verily don't [you] be done! (S/M)	لَا تَفْعَلَنَّ Verily don't [you] do! (S/M)	لَا تُفَعَّلْ Don't [you] be done! (S/M)	لَا تَفْعَلْ Don't [you] do! (S/M)
لَا تُفَعِّلَانَّ 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 تُفَعِّلْنَ 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 تُفَعِّلَنَّ Verily don't [you] be done! (S/F)	لَا تَفْعَلَنَّ Verily don't [you] do! (S/F)	لَا تُفَعَّلِيْ Don't [you] be done! (S/F)	لَا تَفْعَلِيْ Don't [you] do! (S/F)
لَا تُفَعِّلَانَّ 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 تُفَعِّلَنَّا Verily don't [you] be done! (P/F)	لَا تَفْعَلَنَّا Verily don't [you] do! (P/F)	لَا تُفَعَّلَنْ Don't [you] be done! (P/F)	لَا تَفْعَلَنْ Don't [you] do! (P/F)
لَا أَفْعَلَنَّ Verily I must not be done!	لَا أَفْعَلَنَّ Verily I must not do!	لَا أَفْعَلْ I must not be done!	لَا أَفْعَلْ I must not do!
لَا نُفَعِّلَنَّ Verily we must not be done!	لَا نَفْعَلَنَّ Verily we must not do!	لَا نُفَعَّلْ We must not be done!	لَا نَفْعَلْ We must not do!



## Chapter 14

### The Prohibitive Laa لَا النَّاهِيَةُ

The Prohibitive لَا allows for the speaker to give a command of prohibition. For example: لَا تَذْهَبْ means “don't go”. This prohibition can be expressed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> person of the conversation. The particle لَا precedes the 2<sup>nd</sup> person present tense verb, placing it into the jussive mood.

لَا تَذْهَبْ

جَزْمُ الْمُضَارِعِ

لَا النَّاهِيَةُ

الضمير	لَا تَذْهَبْ Don't go!	لَا تَخْرُجْ Don't leave!	لَا تَعْبُدْ Don't worship!	لَا تَجْلِسْ Don't sit!
أَنْتِ				
أَنْتُمَا				
أَنْتُمْ				
أَنْتِ				
أَنْتُمَا				
أَنْتُمْ				
الضمير	لَا تَفْعَلْ Don't do!	لَا تَضْرِبْ Don't hit!	لَا تَشْرَبْ Don't drink!	لَا تَفْتَحْ Don't open!
أَنْتِ				
أَنْتُمَا				
أَنْتُمْ				
أَنْتِ				
أَنْتُمَا				
أَنْتُمْ				

عَيْنُ وَتَرْجِمُ لَا النَّاهِيَةَ وَالْفِعْلَ الْمُضَارِعَ فِي الْآيَاتِ التَّالِيَةِ:

وَأَمَّا السَّائِلَ فَلَا تَنْهَرْ ﴿٩٣﴾ (93:10)

لا تَنْهَرْ - Do not reject

وَلَا تَنْكِحُوا الْمُشْرِكَاتِ حَتَّى يُؤْمِنَ (2:221)

وَمَا يُعْلِمَانِ مِنْ أَحَدٍ حَتَّى يَقُولَا إِنَّمَا نَحْنُ فِتْنَةٌ فَلَا تَكْفُرْ (2:102)

وَلَا تَكْتُمُوا الشَّهَادَةَ (2:283)

إِذْ قَالَ لَهُ قَوْمُهُ لَا تَفْرَحْ (28:76)

يَتَأْتٍ لَا تَعْبُدِ الشَّيْطَانَ (19:44)

فَلَا تَظْلِمُوا فِيهِ أَنْفُسَكُمْ (9:36)



Meaning	النَّهْيُ الْحَاضِرُ الْمَجْهُولُ	Meaning	النَّهْيُ الْحَاضِرُ الْمَعْرُوفُ
He should not be hit	لَا تُضْرَبُ	He should not hit	لَا تَضْرِبُ
They 2 should not be hit	لَا تُضْرَبَا	They 2 should not hit	لَا تَضْرِبَا
They (m) should not be hit	لَا تُضْرَبُوا	They (m) should not hit	لَا تَضْرِبُوا
She should not be hit	لَا تُضْرَبِيْ	She should not hit	لَا تَضْرِبِيْ
They 2 should not be hit	لَا تُضْرَبَا	They 2 should not hit	لَا تَضْرِبَا
They (f) should not be hit	لَا تُضْرَبَيْنِ	They (f) should not hit	لَا تَضْرِبَيْنِ

Meaning	النَّهْيُ الْعَائِبُ وَالْمُتَكَلَّمُ الْمَجْهُولُ	Meaning	النَّهْيُ الْعَائِبُ وَالْمُتَكَلَّمُ الْمَعْرُوفُ
He should not be hit	لَا يُضْرَبُ	He should not hit	لَا يَضْرِبُ
They 2 should not be hit	لَا يُضْرَبَانِ	They 2 should not hit	لَا يَضْرِبَانِ
They should not be hit	لَا يُضْرَبُونَ	They should not hit	لَا يَضْرِبُونَ
She should not be hit	لَا تُضْرَبُ	She should not hit	لَا تَضْرِبُ
They 2 should not be hit	لَا تُضْرَبَانِ	They 2 should not hit	لَا تَضْرِبَانِ
They should not be hit	لَا يُضْرَبْنَ	They should not hit	لَا يَضْرِبْنَ
I should not be hit	لَا أُضْرَبُ	I should not hit	لَا أَضْرِبُ
We should not be hit	لَا نُضْرَبُ	We should not hit	لَا نَضْرِبُ



Note 6: The (نون ثَقِيلَة) and (نون خَفِيفَة) can also be appended to the imperative and the prohibition, e.g.

(اضْرِبَنَّ) – You certainly hit.

(لَا تَضْرِبَنَّ) – You certainly do not hit.

(اضْرِبُنَّ) – You all certainly hit.

Note 7: The particle (لَا) is of two types:

- (لَا النَّفْيِ) which does not create any change in word in the (الماضي) and (المضارع) tenses.
- (لَا النَّهْيِ) which renders jazm to the end of the (المضارع) while creating the meaning of prohibition as you have seen in the paradigms of prohibition.

Note 8: You have learnt in Volume One that when the final letter of any word is sākin, it is rendered a kasrah to join it to a succeeding word.

Examples:

from (اضْرِبِ الْكَلْبَ) – Hit the dog.

from (لَا يُؤْكَلِ الطَّعَامُ بِغَيْرِ جُوعٍ) – Food should not be eaten without hunger.