Rules for dual and plural

قواعد للتثنية والجمع

Class Objective: In this class, we will discuss how to make dual and plural: Concept A: How to make dual:

- Arabic language has a distinct way of referring to two things or people, as opposed to just singular and plural. It is called the "dual" or "Al-muthanna" in Arabic grammar. Basically, dual is used for any two things 2, while plural is used for three or more 3+. This also affects the way a word is written in Arabic, in each of the three cases: singular, dual, and plural.
- Another consideration is whether the noun is feminine or masculine, so the way it is expressed in dual will be different. Sounds complicated, but it's not. One easy way of knowing how to change a noun from singular to dual, is by adding the suffix Aan ن من at the end of the word. Note that when the noun is feminine and ending with Taa marbouta i, it changes to Taa Maftouha ن , before adding the suffixes Aan ن من or Ayn بين .

Examples:

Book	Kitaab	كتاب	
(Two) books	Kitaabaan	كتابان	
(Two) books	Kitaabayn	كتابيْن	
Girl	Fataat	فتاة	
(Two) girls	Fataataan	فتاتان	
(Two) girls	Fataatayn	فتاتیْن	

Concept B: When to use alif noon and ya non:

Aan $\dot{\cup}$ is used in the nominative case, or when it is used as a subject or a predicate of nominal sentences. On the other hand, Ayn $\dot{\cup}$ is used in the accusative case when the noun is used as an object; and also in the genitive case, when the noun is used after a preposition or after the first word of "idafa construction".

Examples:

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	The (two) boys ate the food.	Akala al-waladaan at-ta'aam.	أكل الولدان الطُّعام.

Here, we used the suffix Aan نُر, because "al-waladaan" or "the two boys" are the subject of the sentence. (Nominative Case)

Examples:

` '	Akala al-walado samakatayn.	أكل الولدُ سمكتيْن.
	oarnakatayri.	

In this case we used the suffix Ayn بن, because "samakatayn" or "two fish" are the object of the sentence. (Accusative case)

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