النَّعْتُ الْمَقْطُوعُ

The Cut-Off Adjective

The نَعْتٌ (adjective) may be cut off from the مَنْعُوتٌ (noun being described) by changing its case-ending.

● This is done by either:

A) Assuming a مُبْتَدَأٌ or

B) Assuming a فِعْلٌ.

A) Assuming a مُبْتَدَأٌ

● Example of an assumed مُبْتَدَأٌ :

<div dir="rtl">
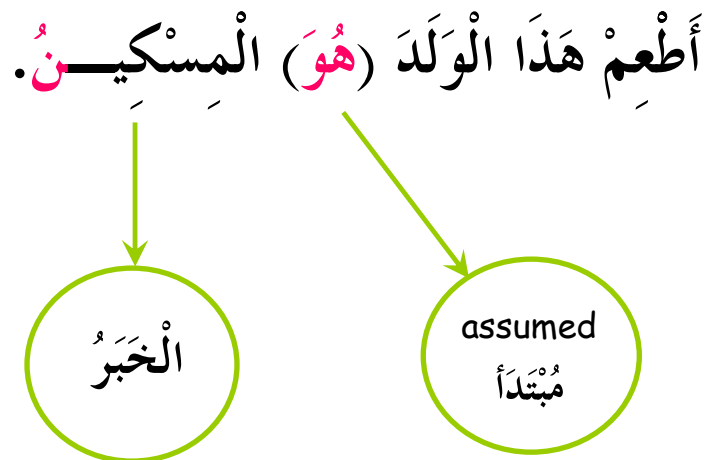
أَطْعِمْ هَذَا الْوَلَدَ الْمِسْكِيـــنُ.

</div>

'aT"im haadhaa l-walad-a l-miskiin-u.

'Feed this boy, the poor one.'

Here, الْمِسْكِيـــنُ is نَعْتٌ مَقْطُوعٌ (a cut-off adjective) because it is the خَبَرٌ of an assumed *mubtada'* which is هُوَ. i.e.:

<div dir="rtl">

أَطْعِمْ هَذَا الْوَلَدَ (هُوَ) الْمِسْكِيـــنُ.

</div>

الْخَبَرُ	assumed مُبْتَدَأ

'Feed this boy, (he is) the poor one.'

B) Assuming a فِعْلٌ

The assumed فِعْلٌ is one of the following three:

1) أَمْدَحُ : 'I praise', *or*

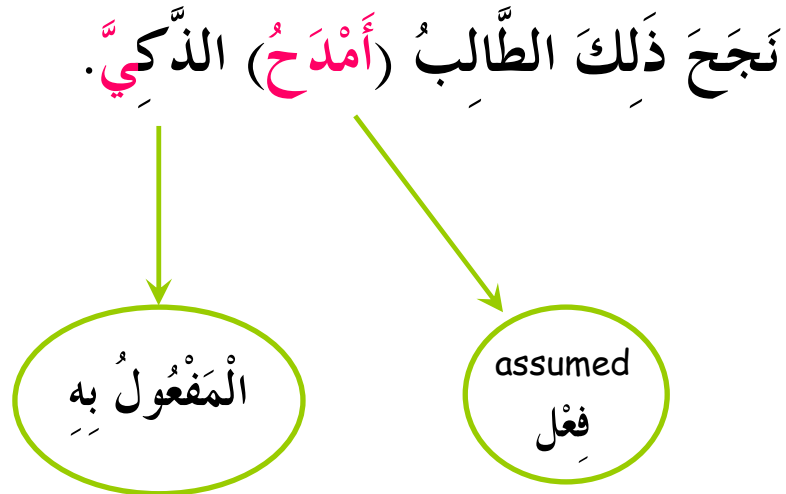2) أَذُمُّ : 'I condemn', *or*

3) أَعْنِي : 'I mean.'

● Example of the assumed verb, أَمْدَحُ 'I praise':

نَجَحَ ذَلِكَ الطَّالِبُ الذَّكِيَّ.

najaHa dhaalika l-Taalib-u l-dhakiyy-a.

'That student passed, the intelligent one.'

3

Here, الذَّكِيَّ is نَعْتٌ مَقْطُوعٌ (a cut-off adjective) because

it is the *maf"uul bihi* of the assumed verb أَمْدَحُ i.e.:

نَجَحَ ذَلِكَ الطَّالِبُ (أَمْدَحُ) الذَّكِيَّ.

الْمَفْعُولُ بِهِ

assumed
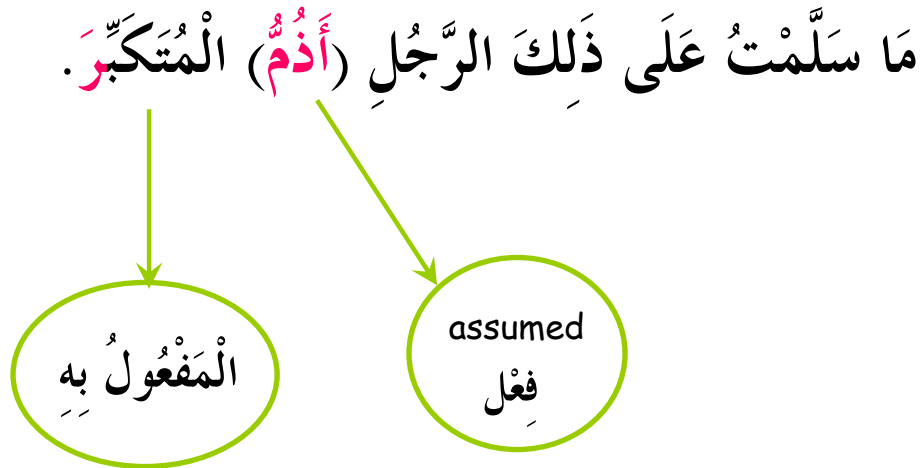فِعْل

'That student passed, (I praise) the intelligent one.'

● Example of the assumed verb أَذُمُّ 'I condemn':

مَا سَلَّمْتُ عَلَى ذَلِكَ الرَّجُلِ الْمُتَكَبِّرَ.

maa sallamtu "alaa dhaalika l-rajul-i l-mutakabbir-a.

'I did not give *salaam* to that man, the proud one'.

4

Here الْمُتَكَبِّرَ is نَعْتٌ مَقْطُوعٌ (a cut-off adjective) because

it is the *maf"uul bihi* of the assumed verb أَذُمُّ i.e.:

مَا سَلَّمْتُ عَلَى ذَلِكَ الرَّجُلِ (أَذُمُّ) الْمُتَكَبِّرَ.

'I did not give *salaam* to that man, (I condemn) the proud one.'

● In the above two examples, the assumed فِعْلٌ might also be

أَعْنِي 'I mean'. i.e.:

نَجَحَ ذَلِكَ الطَّالِبُ (أَعْنِي) الذَّكِيَّ.

'That student passed, (I mean) the intelligent one.'

مَا سَلَّمْتُ عَلَى ذَلِكَ الرَّجُلِ (أَعْنِي) الْمُتَكَبِّرَ.

'I did not give *salaam* to that man, (I mean) the proud one.'

From *Alfiyyah*

Ibn Maalik - رَحِمَهُ الله - says in his *Alfiyyah*:

<div dir="rtl">

وَارْفَعْ أَوِ انْصِبْ إِنْ قَطَعْتَ مُضْمِرًا

مُبْـــتَدَأً أَوْ نَاصِبـاً لَـــنْ يَــظْهَرَا

</div>

This line is from the *baab* of النَّعْتُ.

He says:

> If you cut off (the *na"t*), render it *marfuu"* or *manSuub*
>
> by assuming (مُضْمِرًا) a *mubtada'* or a *naaSib* (verb),
>
> and these two will never appear.

Here:

مُضْمِرًا → is حَالٌ. It means: 'assuming, hiding',

مُبْتَدَأً → مَفْعُولٌ بِهِ is its,

نَاصباً → مَعْطُوفٌ is,

لَنْ يَظْهَرَا → means that the assumed elements - *mubtada'* or *fi"l,* are never to be mentioned (in the original statement).

6

Wisdom in Cutting off the نَعْتٌ

Now this cutting off of the نَعْتٌ is done to draw the attention of the listener who will not pay any attention to it if the نَعْتٌ follows the case-ending of the مَنْعُوتٌ.

But when it is in a different case-ending, it will immediately draw his attention to it.

Example from the Glorious *Qur'aan*

A very good example of النَّعْتُ الْمَقْطُوعُ - the cut-off adjective - is in *suurah al-Masad* in the following two *aayah*s :

﴾وَامْرَأَتُهُ حَمَّالَةَ الْحَطَبِ * فِي جِيدِهَا حَبْلٌ مِنْ مَسَدٍ﴿

إِعْرَابُ الآيَتَيْنِ

Grammatical Analysis of
the two *Aayahs*

امْرَأَتُـ(هُ) → مُبْتَدَأٌ is

فِي جِيدِهَا حَبْلٌ مِنْ مَسَدٍ → is its خَبَرٌ

حَمَّالَةَ الْحَطَبِ → نَعْتٌ مَقْطُوعٌ is

حَمَّالَةَ → is the مَفْعُولٌ بِهِ

of the assumed *fi''l*:

أَعْنِي or أَذُمُّ.

And the assumed *fi''l* أَذُمُّ or أَعْنِي is the نَاصِبٌ for حَمَّالَةَ
rendering it *manSuub* :

وَامْرَأَتُهُ (أَذُمُّ / أَعْنِي) حَمَّالَةَ الْحَطَبِ

النَّعْتُ الْمَقْطُوعُ

- The *na"t* may be cut off from the *man"uut* by changing its case-ending, either by:

  A) Assuming a مُبْتَدَأٌ   or

  B) Assuming a فِعْلٌ.

- The assumed فِعْلٌ is one of these three:

  1. أَمْدَحُ   2. أَذُمُّ   3. أَعْنِي

- Its wisdom is to draw the listener's attention.

- *Suurah al-Masad* has a very good example.