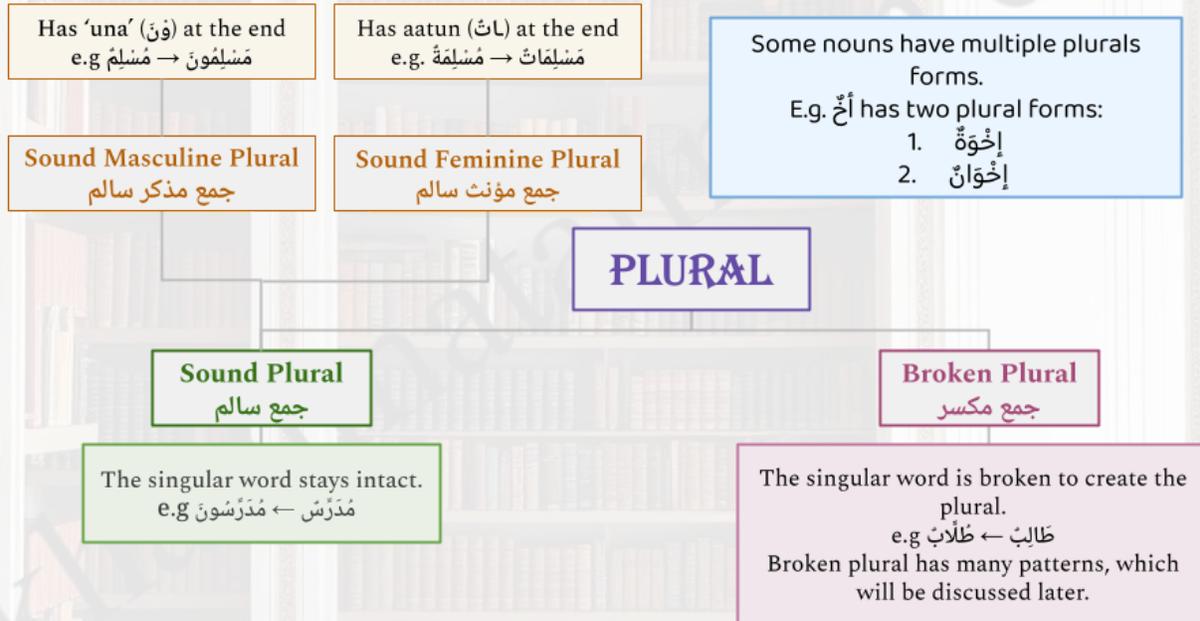


6 : PLURALS

- The Arabic word for plural is **جَمْع** .
- The plural (of a noun) in Arabic typically denotes a quantity greater than two.
- In Arabic there are two main types of plurals:
 1. **Sound plural (جَمْع السالم)** is further divided into:
 - ◆ Sound masculine plural (جَمْع المذكّر السالم)
 - ◆ Sound feminine plural (جَمْع المؤنّث السالم)
 2. **Broken plural (جَمْع التّكسير)**



★ Sound plural (جَمْع السالم)

- In Arabic, the sound plural is the plural in which the singular form of the word remains intact (sound) with some addition at the end.
- It can be created simply by adding a suffix to the singular form (وُنْ or يُنْ for the masculine and اَتْ for the feminine).
- It is called a sound plural because they have regular plural endings.

Gender	Nominative Case		Accusative and Genitive Cases	
	Suffix	Example	Suffix	Example
Masculine	ـُونَ	رَاغِبُونَ	ـِينَ	رَاغِبِينَ
Feminine	ـَاتُ	رَاغِبَاتُ	ـَاتِ	رَاغِبَاتِ

○ **Sound Masculine Plural - SMP- (جَمْعُ الْمَذَكَّرِ السَّالِمِ)**

- When we form the SMP from a singular noun, we do not change the form of the singular noun, we just add the suffix (ending) **ون** in the nominative case and **ين** to the end of the singular noun in the accusative and genitive.
- Generally, SMPs are used only for people (only males or a group of mixed males and females).

Singular	Nominative case	Accusative case	Genitive case	Meaning
عَامِلٌ	عَامِلُونَ	عَامِلِينَ	عَامِلِينَ	Worker
مُوظَّفٌ	مُوظَّفُونَ	مُوظَّفِينَ	مُوظَّفِينَ	Employee
مُعَلِّمٌ	مُعَلِّمُونَ	مُعَلِّمِينَ	مُعَلِّمِينَ	Teacher

○ **Sound Feminine Plural -SFP- (جَمْعُ الْمَوْثَّ السَّالِمِ)**

- When we form the SFP from a singular noun, we remove the ة (ta marbuta) of the singular feminine noun and add **ات**.
- They always end with **ات**. It remains the same, regardless of the position of the SFP in the sentence, but the harakath (vowel markings) alone changes. They get Dhamma tanween, if nominative, and kasra tanween, if accusative or genitive.
- Unlike SMP, SFPs are most commonly used plural forms. It is used for female groups (people/ human) and also for some objects (non-human).

Exam (امتحان) - Exams (امتحانات)

Meeting (اجتماع) - Meetings (اجتماعات)

Female doctor (طبيبة) - Female doctors (طبيبات)

- Long foreign/ borrowed words also use the SFP pattern.

Television (تلفزيون) - Televisions (تلفزيونات)

Balloon (بالون) - Balloons (بالونات)

★ Broken Plural (جَمْعُ التَّكْسِيرِ)

Pattern/ باب		Singular	Broken Plural
فُعُولٌ	as from	نَجْمٌ “star”	نُجُومٌ
فُعُلٌ	as from	كِتَابٌ “book”	كُتُبٌ
فَعَالٌ	as from	رَجُلٌ “man”	رِجَالٌ
أَفْعَالٌ	as from	قَلَمٌ “pen”	أَقْلَامٌ
أَفْعُلٌ	as from	عَيْنٌ “eye”	عُيُونٌ
فُعَلَاءٌ	as from	فَقِيرٌ “poor”	فُقَرَاءٌ
أَفْعَلَاءٌ	as from	غَنِيٌّ “rich”	أَغْنِيَاءٌ
فَعَالِيلٌ	as from	شَيْطَانٌ “satan”	شَيْاطِينٌ
فَعَالِلٌ	as from	مَنْزِلَةٌ “building”	مَنْازِلٌ
فُعَلَانٌ	as from	بَلَدٌ “country”	بُلْدَانٌ
فِعْلَةٌ	as from	أَخٌ “brother”	إِخْوَةٌ
فُعَالٌ	as from	تَاجِرٌ “trader”	تُجَّارٌ

- The broken plural is one in which the form of the singular word is broken, that is, changed. It has no fixed rule for making it.
- Sometimes alphabets are added or deleted and sometimes there is merely a change in the harakat (vowels).

- There are many patterns on which we can place base letters in order to form broken plurals. Some of the patterns are given in the above picture.
- **Non-Human Plurals**
 - Non-human plural nouns are treated like **singular feminine nouns** in a sentence. Hence, the adjectives and verbs for non-human plural nouns will always be singular and feminine.

The pens are beautiful - الأقلام جميلة

The beds are large - الأسرة كبيرة

- **The Noun of Plural/ Collective Noun (إسم الجمع)**
 - There are certain nouns which render the meaning of plurality even though they are singular.
 - However, with regards to the sentence structure, these nouns are treated like any singular masculine noun.
 - The singular form of these nouns usually comes with a ة (ta marbuta).
 - Mostly words referring to animals and plants come under the collective noun.
 - Examples: عنب, تفاح, سمك, موز

Banana (موز) - A Banana (موزة)

Fish (سمك) - A fish (سمكة)