

علم الصرف

More information the
active and passive participle



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The active participle (اسْمُ الْفَاعِلِ)

The active participle is derived specifically from the present tense active form of the triliteral verb. The sign of the present tense verb is dropped.

فَاعِلٌ >>> يَفْعَلُ

The active participle signifies the person or thing that is performs the action associated with the verb which it is derived from. For example يَضْرِبُ (he is hitting), ضَارِبٌ (hitter).

The active participle can also signify the person or thing to which a particular state is attributed to. As in يَصْبِرُ (he is patient), صَابِرٌ (patient)

The active participle acts like a verb in that it can take an object. The difference between using a verb or the active participle (a noun) in Arabic is that a verb denotes the occurrence of an action that has a beginning and end while the noun denotes constancy.

e.g

زَيْدٌ يَصْبِرُ (zayd is being patient) This patience might only occur once and the statement will be true.

زَيْدٌ صَابِرٌ (zayd is patient) This denotes patience time after time. A noun denotes a state which is a more emphatic i.e. zayd is showing patience time after time.

The passive participle (اسْمُ الْمَفْعُولِ)

The passive participle can only be derived from transitive verbs. Once again like the active participle this noun can denote

1. one that receives the action, For example يُضْرَبُ (he is being hit), مَضْرُوبٌ (hitted/ the one that it hit).

2. or attributing a state to someone or something. As in يُشْهَدُ (it is being witnessed),

مَشْهُودٌ (the witnessed)