

## إِسْمُ التَّفْضِيلِ

Comparative & Superlative

In Arabic, The noun which is used for comparative and superlative degrees of adjective is called اسم تفضيل, the اسم which renders فضيلت superiority. It is that noun which indicates that a quality is found to a greater extent in one person/thing when compared to another.

﴿وَأَخِي هَارُونُ هُوَ أَفْصَحُ مِنِّي لِسَانًا﴾ [التقصص: 28:34]

Both Musa (AS) and his brother Haroon (AS) have the quality of eloquence but according to Musa (AS), Haroon (AS) is more eloquent than him.

## إِسْمُ التَّفْضِيلِ قَوَاعِدُ

The Rules of Comparative & Superlative

Singular masculine form of اسم تفضيل is on the pattern of أَفْعَلُ and singular feminine form is on the pattern of فُعْلَى .

فُعْلَى

كُبْرَى

(Greater than) كُبْرَى

أَفْعَلُ

أَكْبَرُ

(The greatest) أَكْبَرُ

You have already learned that the proper noun (اسم علم) and adjective (اسم صفت) on the pattern of أَفْعَلُ are partially declinable (غير منصرف). It means that they don't take تنوين or كسره).

(Superlative)

Biggest أَكْبَرُ

Most beautiful أَجْمَلُ

(Comparative)

Bigger than أَكْبَرُ

More beautiful أَجْمَلُ

(Adjective)

Big كَبِيرٌ

Beautiful جَمِيلٌ

**اسم تفضيل is used in three ways.**

3. الف لام (ال) (With ALIF LAAM)	2. مضاف (Used as مضاف)	1. مِنْ حرف جر (With Hurf Jar min)
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**1. مِنْ Hurf Jar اسم تفضيل:**

The pattern of أَفْعَلٌ with مِنْ it (اسم تفضيل) always will be singular masculine for (واحد مذكر مونث، واحد، جمع).

Hamid is taller than Bilal.

حَامِدٌ أَطْوَلُ مِنْ بِلَالٍ

Bilal is taller than Amina.

بِلَالٌ أَطْوَلُ مِنْ أَمِنَةَ

Amina is taller than Bilal.

أَمِنَةُ أَطْوَلُ مِنْ بِلَالٍ

The sons are taller than the daughters.

الْأَبْنَاءُ أَطْوَلُ مِنَ الْبَنَاتِ

The daughters are taller than the sons.

الْبَنَاتُ أَطْوَلُ مِنَ الْأَبْنَاءِ

**2. مضاف used as اسم تفضيل:****towards marifa مضاف**

When used in superlative degree, it occurs as a مضاف of اسم نكرة or اسم معرفه and مضاف اليه is the one who is compared to (the object of comparison)

When موصوف (subject of comparison) is اسم معرفه مضاف of اسم تفضيل then it may or may not correspond to its موصوف (subject of comparison) in gender and number.

The prophets are superior to all human beings.

الْأَنْبِيَاءُ أَفْضَلُ النَّاسِ

Maryam is superior to all women .

مَرْيَمُ أَفْضَلُ النِّسَاءِ

towards nakira مضاف

When اسم تفضيل is a مضاف of اسم نكرة then in that case it will always be in singular masculine form (واحد مذكر).

Ibraheem is the best student of the school.

إِبْرَاهِيمُ أَحْسَنُ طَالِبٍ فِي الْمَدْرَسَةِ

Al Azhar is the oldest university in the world.

الْأَذْهَرُ أَقْدَمُ جَامِعَةٍ فِي الْعَالَمِ

3. اسم تفضيل occurs with Alif laam:

When اسم تفضيل occurs with ال, it forms an adjectival phrase (مركب توصيفي). That is why it must correspond to its موصوف in every respect.

The most superior scholar.

الْعَالِمُ الْأَفْضَلُ

The two most superior scholars.

الْعَالِمَانِ الْأَفْضَلَانِ

All of the most superior scholars.

الْعَالِمُونَ الْأَفْضَلُونَ

The most superior lady scholar.

الْعَالِمَةُ الْأَفْضَلَى

The most superior scholar.

الْعَالِمَتَانِ الْأَفْضَلِيَّانِ

All of the most superior lady scholars.

الْعَالِمَاتُ الْأَفْضَلِيَّاتُ

**Note:** Sometimes the object of comparison is omitted after اسم تفضيل. Then only اسم تفضيل is there in the sentence. But with the context we know the object of comparison.

﴿الله أكبر من كل شيء﴾ الله أكبر

Allah is greater than everything. الله أكبر من كل شيء is in fact

الله أكبر من كل شيء

When we say الله أكبر then الله أكبر من كل شيء is omitted here which is implied in meanings.