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COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE USE OF POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS IN ARABIC AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES AS TOOLS FOR TEACHING OF ISLAMIC STUDIES

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ABSTRACT

This study presents a comparative analysis of the use of possessive pronouns in Arabic and English, with a focus on their application in teaching Islamic studies. The research aims to identify similarities and differences in the usage of possessive pronouns in both languages and explore their implications for teaching Islamic studies. The study employs a qualitative approach, analysing possessive pronouns in Arabic and English texts, including the Quran and Islamic literature. The findings reveal that while both languages use possessive pronouns to indicate possession and relationship, there are significant differences in their grammatical structures, usage, and connotations. The study highlights the importance of understanding these differences for effective teaching and learning of Islamic studies, particularly in multilingual and multicultural contexts. The research provides insights for educators and scholars on how to utilise possessive pronouns in Arabic and English to enhance the teaching and learning of Islamic studies. It is quite understood that there are eight classes of pronouns in the English language, while there are only two classes of them in Arabic. Personal and possessive pronouns are the two classes of pronouns in Arabic. The other six classes of pronoun have pronouns have other names by which they are called. This paper, therefore, intends to compare the possessive pronoun between English and Arabic. Examples of English and Arabic shall be shown and discussed as well.

Introduction

The Arabic language is a rich and complex language with a long history and significant cultural importance, while the English language is a global language with a significant impact on modern communication (Ismail, 2023). According to Yusuf (2021): Islamic studies encompass a broad range of academic disciplines that explore the history, theology, culture, and practices of Islam. According to Adunola (2021), Comparative analysis is a research methodology used to compare and contrast different phenomena, concepts, or entities. According to John (2024): Teaching and learning are interconnected processes that involve the transfer of knowledge, skills, and values from one person to another.

Possessive pronouns are the pronouns that show possessive and have two forms. A form functions as an adjective in English, and it is referred to as a pronominal adjective, while the other is a pure pronoun and functions as such (Akande, 1996). For example, (1) This is my bag.

(2) The bag is mine

1- "My" in the first sentence is a pronoun that functions as an adjective qualifying "bag"

2- "Mine" in the second sentence is a possessive pronoun and a subject complement.

The table below shows possessive pronouns in their adjective and independent pronoun forms in the English language

	Singular		Plural	
	Adjective form	Pronoun form	Adjective form	Pronoun form
1 st person	My	Mine	Our	Ours
2 nd person	Your	Yours	Your	Yours
3 rd person	His	His	Their	Their
	Her	Hers	Their	Their
	Its	Its	Their	Their

.. ضمير متصل هو ما يتصل بإسم أو فعلاً و حرف تفعّل فموضعين

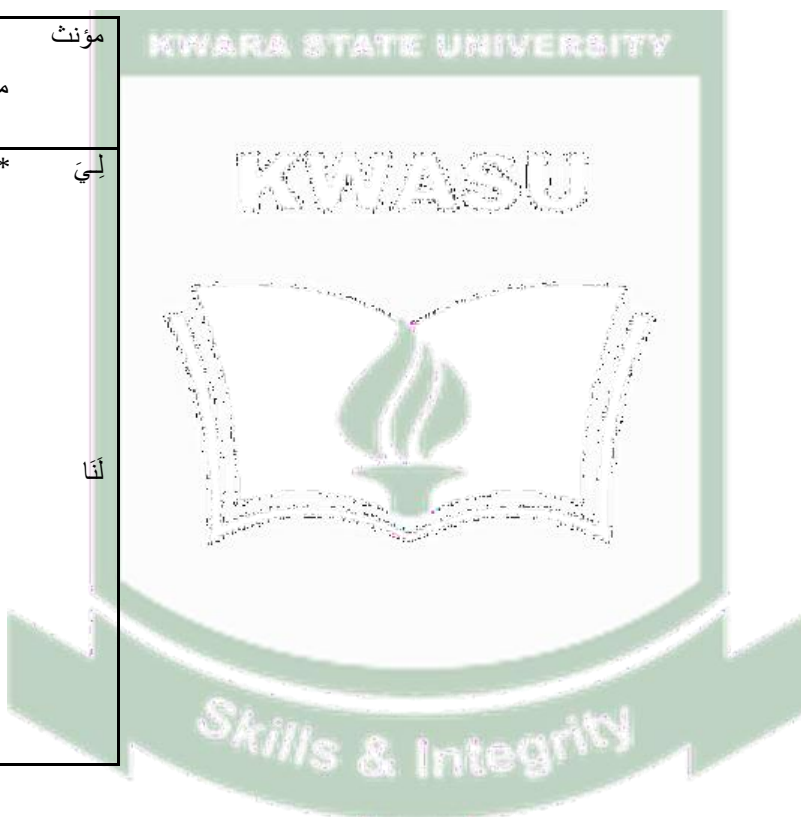
Possessive pronoun is a pronoun that joined with either noun (Ismu) or verb (Fi'lun) or particles (harfun) to indicate possession (i.e. ownership). It could appear in two places.

These are those that could be at the beginning of a sentence e.g. mine (liya), ours (lana), Yours (laka, laki, lakuma, lakum, lakunna) His (lahu) Hers (laha) their (lahuma, lahum, lahunna).

Below is the table indicating the possessive pronouns that could be at the beginning of a sentence.

1 st person المتكلم

Feminine مؤنث	
Masculine مذكر	
Singular *	لي
Mine مفرد * لي	
Liya	
LiyaMufrad	
Plural *	لنا
Ours جمع * لنا	
Lana	
LanaJam'u	



البيان Explanation

لـ(ي): "الياء" ضمير متصل بحر فللمفرد المذكر او المؤنث المتكلم

Liya (mine): is the possessive pronoun of the first-person singular joined with particle (harf) used by both masculine and feminine gender

لـ(نا): "النون" ضمير متصل بـ"لـ" جمع المذكر السالم أو الإناث المتكلمين أو المعظم من نفسه

Lana (ours) is the possessive pronoun of the first-person plural joined with particle (harf) used by both masculine and feminine genders and he who holy him herself

الأمثلة example

ليذا الكتاب

Liya dhalikal-kitabu

Mine is that book

That book is mine

لنا ذا البيت

Lana dhālika –l- bayti

Ours is that house

That house is ours

Allah says:

بعثنا عليكم عبدانا

--- Ba'athna 'alaykum 'ibadanlana

--- We turned against you our servants (Q17:15)

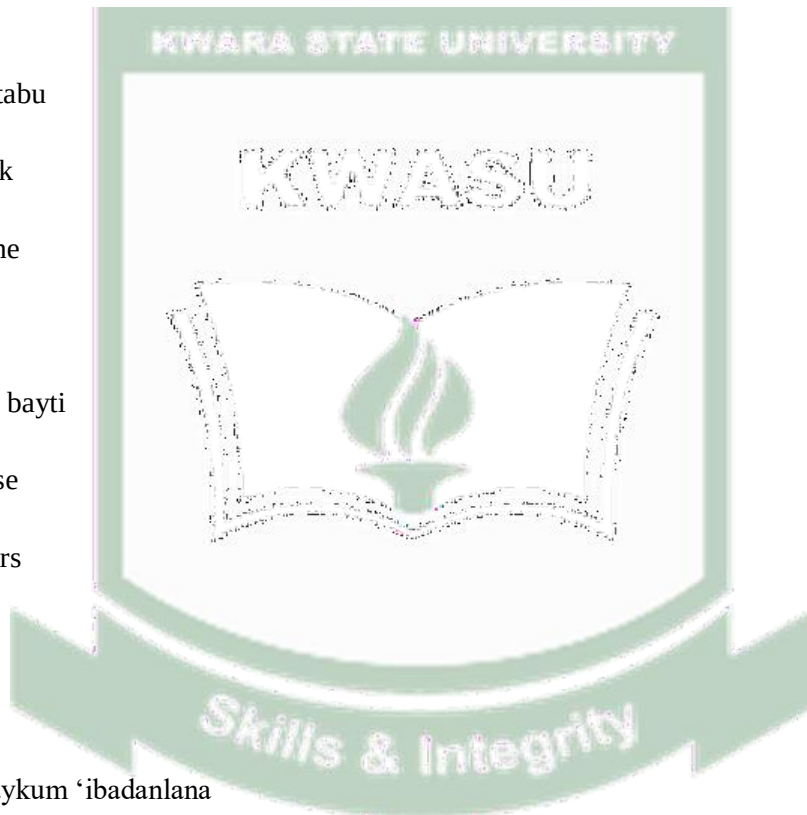
The verse of the Glorious Qur'an, showing the word of Allah as if Allah is many, and He is one, but He holy himself by using plural pronoun for Himself.

The prophet (SAW) said: "...النكاح سنتي"

"Marriage is my tradition"

Below is the table represents singular, dual and plural of possessive pronouns of second person, showing the different in the pronoun of their masculine and feminine genders.

At this point both masculine and feminine are written in the same way in English likewise in Arabic Language.



The implication of this research on teaching Islamic studies is that Al-Qur'an was revealed in Arabic Language such has the verse that was quoted above (بعثنا عليكم بالنا) and our lingua franca in Nigeria is English Language. Understanding of possessive pronoun of both will make it easier for the teacher to explain better to the students in the class.

2nd person المخاطب

Feminine مؤنث	Masculine مذكر
Singular لَكِ * لَكِي	Yours مفرد * أَكْ
Laki	Laka * Mufrad
Dual لَكُمَا * لَكُمَا	Yours (both of you) مثنى * لَكُمَا
Lakumalakumamuthanna	
Plural لَكُنَّ * لَكُنَّ	Yours (all of you) جمع * لَكُم
LakunnaLakum Jam'u	

Explanation : البيان :

ل(ك): "الكافالمصو" ضمير متصل بجر فاعل المفرد المذكر المخاطب

Laka (yours): Is the possessive pronoun of the second person singular joined with particle (Harf) used for a masculine genders (m).

ل(ك): "الكافالمكسورة" ضمير متصل بجر فاعل المفرد المؤنث المخاطبة

Laki (yours): Is the possessive pronoun of the second person singular joined with particle (Harf) used for a feminine gender (f) .

At this point, it is obvious that (Laka) is used for male second person singular, while (Laki) is used for female second person singular, as against second person singular in the English Language, which only uses (yours) for both male and female.

ل(كما): "كما" ضمير متصل بجر فاعل المثنى المذكر يناو المؤنثين المخاطبين

Lakuma (yours): Is the possessive pronoun of the second person dual joined with particle (Harf) used for two masculine and or feminine genders.

Additionally, Arabic used (Lakuma) for either masculine or feminine dual, just like the English Language used (yours) for both of them.

لـ(كم): "كم" ضمير متصل بحر فللجمع المذكور المخاطبين

Lakum (yours): Is the possessive pronoun of the second person plural joined with the particle (Harf) used for masculine genders. It should also be realised that when both genders are involved in the plural, we will use (Lakum) as well.

لـ(كن): "كن" ضمير متصل بحر فللجمع الإناث المخاطبات

Lakunna (Yours): Is the possessive pronoun of the second person plural joined with the particle (Harf) used for feminine genders.

At this point, it should be known that when masculine and feminine are involved (Lakum) will still be used in Arabic.

الأمثلة Explanation

لكهذا الكتاب لكذا هسيارة

Laki hadhihi sayarah

Laka hadha-l-kitabu

Yours is this car (f). Yours is this book (m)

This car is yours (f). This book is Yours (m)

لكمذا انك دفتر انلكماتانكم سطران

Lakumatanikamistaratanilakuma Dhanika Daftarani. Yours are those rulers (dual). Yours are those two exercise books. Those two rulers are yours. Those exercise books are yours.

لكمدينكم لكانا عملان

Lakunna A'malukunna

Lakum dinukum

Your deeds are Yours (m)

Yours is your religion (f)

Yours are your deeds (). Your religion is yours ()

Below is a table representing the singular, dual and plural forms of the possessive pronouns of the third person, showing the differences between the pronouns of the masculine and feminine genders.

3rd person الغائب

Feminine مونث	Masculine مذكر
Singular * لها Her	His مفرد * له
Laha	Lahu Mufrad
Dual * لهما	Theirs (both of them) مثنى * لمها
Lahuma	Lahumamathanna
Plural * لهنّ	Theirs (They all) جمع * لهم
Lahunna	Lahum Jam'u

: البيان

إليه(ه): "الهاء" هو ضمير متصل بحر فللمفرد المذكر الغائب

His (Lahu): Is a possessive pronoun of the third person singular joint with particle (Harf) used for the masculine gender (m)

إليه(ها): "ها" هو ضمير متصل بحر فللمفرد المؤنث الغائبة

Laha (Hers): It is a possessive pronoun of the third person singular joint with particle (Harf) used for a feminine gender (f).

Both Arabic and English languages have different possessive pronouns for the third person singular. Masculine in Arabic is (Lahu), which can be translated in English as (His), (Laha) in Arabic, which can be translated in English as (Hers).

إليه(هما): "هما" هو ضمير متصل بحر فللمثنى المذكر يناو الغائبين

Lahuma (Their): Is a possessive pronoun of the third person dual joint with particle (Harf) used for both masculine and feminine genders (m)

إليه(هم): "هم" هو ضمير متصل بحر فللجمع الذكور الغائبين

Lahum (Theirs): It is a possessive pronoun of the third person plural, joined with the particle (Harf) used for masculine genders (m).

إليه(كنّ): "كنّ" هو ضمير متصل بحر فللجمع الإناث الغائبات

Lahunna (Their): Is a possessive pronoun of the third person plural joint with particle (Hart) used for feminine genders (f)

الأمثلة:

لها الملك ولها العرش العظيم

Wa Laha -l- 'arshul- 'azumu

Lahul- Mulku

And Hers is the big throne. His is the power

The big throne is Hers The power is Hers

لها البيت الواسع ولها القوة

Lahuma -l- Quwwah

Lahuma -l- baytuWasi'i

Their is the power. There is the wide house

The power is Their (dual). The wide house is Their (dual)

لها أولئك الكتب البعل

Lahuma -l- ba'lu

Lahuma 'ulai'kal- Kutubu

Theirs is the husband. These are the books

The husband is their (plural). Those books are theirs (plural)

Some could be at the end of a sentence, and they are of three types, namely:

Possessive with noun متصل بإسم

Possessive with verb متصل بفعل

Possessive with particle / Preposition متصل بحرف

The possessive pronoun with a noun is a pronoun joined with a noun to show the possession (ownership) of such a name. below is a table representing the possessive pronoun with a noun indicating the first person singular.

Possessive with noun متصل بإسم

Feminine مؤنث	3 rd Third Person	Masculine مذكر
Singular * كتابها	Her Book	His Book مفرد * كتابه
Kitauaha Kitabuhu Mufrad		
Dual * كتابهما	Their Book (Both of them)	مفرد * كتابهما
Kitabuhuma Kitabuhuma	Muthanna	
Plural * كتابها	Their Book (All of them)	جمع * كتابهم
Kitabuhunna Kutabuhum Jam'u		

النبيان:

كتابـه "الهـاء" ضمير متصل بإسم للمفرد المذكر الغائب

Kitabuhu (His book): is a possessive pronoun of the third person singular joint with noun, used for a masculine gender

كتابـها "الهـاء" ضمير متصل بإسم للمفرد المؤنث الغائب

Kitabuha (Her book): is a possessive pronoun of the third person singular joint with noun, used for a feminine gender

كتابـهما "هـمـا" ضمير متصل بإسم للثنا الذكر أو المؤنث الغائبين

Kitabuhuma (Their book): is a possessive pronoun of the third person dual joint with noun, used for masculine and feminine genders

كتابـهم "هـمـ" ضمير متصل بإسم للجمع المذكور الغائبين

Kitabuhum (Their book): Is a possessive pronoun of the third person plural, joint with a noun, used for masculine genders

كتابـهن "هـنـ" ضمير متصل بإسم للجمع الإناث الغائبات

Kitabuhunna (their book): Is a possessive pronoun of the third person plural, joint with a noun, used for the feminine gender

الأمثلة

وجدت كتابي هذا بالخارج

HadhakitabuhaWajudtuKitabuhu fil-kharij

This is her book. I found his book outside

ذالككتابهماقرأ أناكتابهما

Qara'taaKitabahumaDhalikaKitabuhuma

Both of them read their book (f). That is their book, both (m)

فتحتكتابهماقرأ أناكتابهما

Qara'tu KitabahunnaFatahtuKitabahum

I read their book (p) (f). I opened their book (p), (m)

(2) The possessive pronoun with a predicate is a pronoun joined with a predicate to show the action performed by one. Below is a table that represents the possessive pronoun Joint with the predicate, showing the first person singular and plural.

Possessive with predicate متصل بفعل

Feminine مؤنث	1 st First person	Masculine مذكر
Singular * ضربت	I beat	مذكر * ضربت
Darabtu Darabtu		
Plural * ضربنا	We beat	جمع * ضربنا
Darabna Darabna		

البيان:

ضربت: "التاء" ضمير متصل بفعل للمفرد المذكر أو المؤنث

Darabtu (I beat): is a possessive pronoun of first person singular joined with a predicate, used by the masculine and feminine genders.

ضربنا "نا" ضمير متصل بفعل للجمع المذكور أو الأنثى المتكلمين

Darabtna (we beat): Is a possessive pronoun of the first person plural, joined with a predicate, used by both masculine and feminine genders.

الأمثلة:

ضربت التلميذ ضربنا الكلب

Darabna -I- kalbuDarabtut-Tilmidha

We beat the dog, I beat the student

Looking into the above examples, one will see that it is a personal pronoun in English, unlike in Arabic, where it is joined with the predicate. So, in Arabic, it is a possessive pronoun.

Below is a table representing the singular, dual and plural of the possessive pronoun of the second person, showing the differences in the pronouns of the Masculine and feminine genders and the way they are used:

Possessive with verb متصل بـفعل

Possessive with predicate متصل بـفعل

Feminine مؤنث	1 st First person	Masculine مذكر
Singular * ضربت	I beat	مذكر * ضربت
DarabtuDarabtu		
Plural * ضربنا	We beat	جمع * ضربنا
DarabnaDarabna		

البيان:

ضربت: "التاء" ضمير متصل بفعل للمفرد المذكر أو المؤنث

Darabtu (I beat): is a possessive pronoun of first person singular joined with a predicate, used by the masculine and feminine genders.

ضربنا "نا" ضمير متصل بفعل للجمع المذكر أو الأنثاء المتكلمين

Darabtna (we beat): Is a possessive pronoun of first person plural, joined with the predicate, used by both masculine and feminine genders.

الأمثلة:

ضربت التلميذ ضربنا الكلب

Darabna -I- kalbuDarabtut-Tilmidha

We beat the dog, I beat the student

Looking into the above examples, one will see that it is a personal pronoun in English, unlike in Arabic, where it is joined with the predicate. So, in Arabic, it is a possessive pronoun.

Below is a table representing singular, dual and plural forms of the possessive pronoun of the second person, showing the differences in the pronouns of Masculine and feminine genders and the way they are used:

Possessive with verb متصل بفعل

Feminine مؤنث	2 nd person المخاطب	Masculine مذكر
Singular كُتِبَتْ * Katabtikatabtumufrad	You wrote	مُفْرَدٌ * كُتِبَ Katabtikatabtumufrad
Dual كُتِمَتَا * Katabtumakatabtumamathanna	Both of (You wrote)	مُتْنِي * كُتِمَتَا Katabtumakatabtumamathanna
Plural كُتِبَتْ * KatabtunnakatabtumJam'u	You (all) wrote	جَمْعٌ * كُتِبْتُمْ KatabtunnakatabtumJam'u

النِّيان:

كُتِبَتْ: "التاء" ضمير متصل بفعل للمفرد المذكر المخاطب

Katabta (You wrote): Is a possessive pronoun of second person singular joined predicate, used for a masculine gender.

كُتِبَتْ: "التاء الكسرة" ضمير متصل بفعل للمفرد المؤنث المخاطبة

Katabti (You wrote): Is a possessive pronoun of second person singular joined predicate, used for a feminine gender

كُتِمَتَا "تما" ضمير متصل بفعل للمثنى المذكر بأو المؤنث المخاطبين

Katabtuma (You wrote): Is a possessive pronoun of second person dual joined predicate, used for masculine and feminine genders

كُتِبْتُمْ "تم" ضمير متصل بفعل للجمع المذكر والمؤنث المخاطبين

Katabtum (You (all) wrote): Is a possessive pronoun of second person plural joined predicate, used for masculine genders

كتبتن "تن" ضمير متصل بفعلا للجمع لأننا المخاطبات

Katabtunna (You wrote): Is a possessive pronoun of second person plural joined predicate, used for feminine genders

الأمثلة:

كتبتا لريالكتبتد رسك

KatabtidarsakiKatabtarisalatailayya

You wrote your lesson (f). You wrote the latter to me (m)

كتبتما رسا لىالحاكمالولاية

KatabtumarisalatanilaHakimil

Both of you wrote a letter to the state governor

كتبتما لدرسفا لدفتركتبتد رسك

KatabtunnadurisakunnaKatabtumud-dursa fid daftar

You (all) wrote your lessons f) You (all) wrote the lesson inside the exercise book

Below is the table representing singular, dual and plural of possessive pronoun of the third person, showing the differences in the pronoun of Masculine and feminine genders and the way they are used:

Possessive with verb متصل بفعلا

Feminine مؤنث	3 rd Person الغائب	Masculine مذكر
Singular * كتبت	She wrote	He wrote مفرد * كتب
KatabatKatabaMufrad		
Dual * كتبتا	They (both) wrote	مثنى * كتبا
Katabatakatabaamuthanna		

Plural * كَتَبُوا They (all) wrote جمع * كَتَبُوا

KatabnaKatabuuJam'u

البيان:

كتب: ضمير فيهمستتر تقديره "هو" ضمير متصل بفاعل المذكر الغائب

Kataba (he wrote): It is a possessive pronoun of the third person singular, which is joined with a predicate used for the masculine gender.

كتبا: "الألفاثنين" ضمير متصل بفاعل المذكر الغائبين

Katabaa (they both wrote): It is a possessive pronoun of the third person dual joined with a predicate which is used for masculine genders.

كتبتوا: "الواو الجمع" ضمير متصل بفاعل الجمع المذكور الغائبين

Katabuu (they (all) wrote): Is a possessive pronoun of the third person plural, joined with a predicate which is used for masculine genders.

كتبت: "التاء التانيث" ضمير متصل بفاعل المؤنث الغائبة

Katabat (she wrote): is a possessive pronoun of the third person singular, which is joined with a predicate, used for the feminine gender.

كتبتا: "تا" ضمير متصل بفاعل المؤنث الغائبتين

Katabataa (they (both) wrote): It is a possessive pronoun of the third person dual joined with a predicate, which is used for feminine genders

كتبن: "نون" ضمير متصل بفاعل الجمع الأنثى الغائبات

Katabna (they (all) wrote): wrote): Is a possessive pronoun of the third person plural, joined with a predicate which is used for feminine genders.

الأمثلة:

كتبريدر سالة إلى البيت كتبت عائشة الدرس

Katabat 'Aishatu d-darsaKatabaZaydurisalatanili-bayti

'Aisha wrote the lesson

Zaydun wrote a letter to the house

أحمد وأبراهيم يكتبان رسالة

Zaynab waHafsatuKatabatanNamiwah Ahmad wa Ibrahim katabarissalatayni

Zaynab and Hafsah wrote the letter Ahmad and Ibrahim wrote two letters.

حامد وموسى عبدالطيف يكتبان الدرس عائشة وزينب حفصة كتبتان رسالة

‘Aisha wa Zaynab wa Hafsatu Kataban r-risalah Hamidu wa Musa wa Abdullateef Katabuu d-darsa

‘Aishah, Zaynab and Hafsah wrote the letter. Hamidu, Musa and Abdullateef wrote the lesson

Below is a table representing the possessive pronoun of first person singular and plural which is joined with the particle (Harf)

Possessive with particle متصل بحرف

Possessive with particle متصل بحرف

Feminine مؤنث	1 st person	Masculine مذكر
Singular * إليّ To me	مفرد * إليّ	
IlayyaIlayya Mufrad		
Plural * إلينا To us	جمع * إلينا	
Ilayna		Ilayna Jam‘u

البيان:

إليّ: "إلياء" ضمير متصل بحرف للمفرد المذكر أو المؤنث المتكلم

Ilayya (To me): "Ya" means "me" which is a possessive pronoun of the first person singular joined with a particle, and used by both Masculine and feminine genders.

إلينا: "نا" ضمير متصل بحرف للمفرد المذكر أو الإناث المتكلمين

Ilay-na (To us): "Na" means "us" which is a possessive pronoun of the person plural, joined with a particle and used by both Masculine and feminine genders.

: الأمثلة

كتبت رسالة إليّ كتبت عائشة رسالة إليّ

Katabat ‘Aishatu RisalataniKatabazaydur-Risalahilay-ya

‘Aishah wrote a letter to me

Zaydu wrote the letter to me

أرسلهااللهإليناأرسلتهافاطمةإلينا

Arsalatiha Fatimah ilay-naArsalahullahuilay-na

Fatimah sent her to us. Allah sent him to us

Below is a table that represents the possessive pronouns of the second person singular, dual and plural, showing the differences in the pronouns of the masculine and feminine genders and the way they are used

Possessive with particle متصل بـ حرف

Feminine مؤنث	2 nd Person المخاطب	Masculine مذكر
Singular * إليك To you	مفرد * إليك	
IlaykiIlaykaMufrad		
Dual * إليكما To (both of) you	مثنى * إليكما	
IlaykumIlaykumamuthanna		
Plural * إليكن To you (all)	جمع * إليكم	
IlaykunnaIlaykumJam‘u		

البيان:

إليك: "الكاف" ضمير متصل بـ حرف فللمفرد المذكور المخاطب

Ilay-ka (to you) “ka” means “you” which is a possessive pronoun of the second person singular, joined with a particle used for masculine gender

إليك: "الكاف المكسورة" ضمير متصل بـ حرف فللمؤنث المخاطبة

Ilay-ki ((to you) “ki” means “you” which is a possessive pronoun of the second person singular joined with a particle used for feminine gender

إليكما: "كما" ضمير متصل بـ حرف فللمثنى المذكور والمؤنث المخاطبين

Ilay-kuma (To both of you) “Kuma means both of you” which is a possessive pronoun of the second person dual, joined with a particle used for masculine and feminine genders

إلَيْكُمْ: "كُم" ضمير متصل بحر فللجمع المذكور المخاطبين

Ilay-kum (To you all) "Kum means you all" which is a possessive pronoun of the second person plural, joined with a particle used for masculine genders

إِلَيْكُمْ: "كُنْ" ضمير متصل بحر فللجمع الأنثاء المخاطبات

Ilay-kunna (To you (all)) "Kunna means you all" which is a possessive pronoun of the second person plural, joined with a particle used for feminine genders

الأمثلة:

يأتينا بكتابها إليك غدا

Yati Ibrahim bikitabihi ilay-ka Ghadan

Ibrahim will bring his book to you tomorrow

أتينا إليك هذا مساء

Ati ilay-ki fi hadha- masa'i

I will come to you this evening

سأرسل ابنك إليك غدا

Sa arsalu ibni ilay-kum aghadan

I will send my son to (both of) tomorrow

هذه تحية مني إليكم

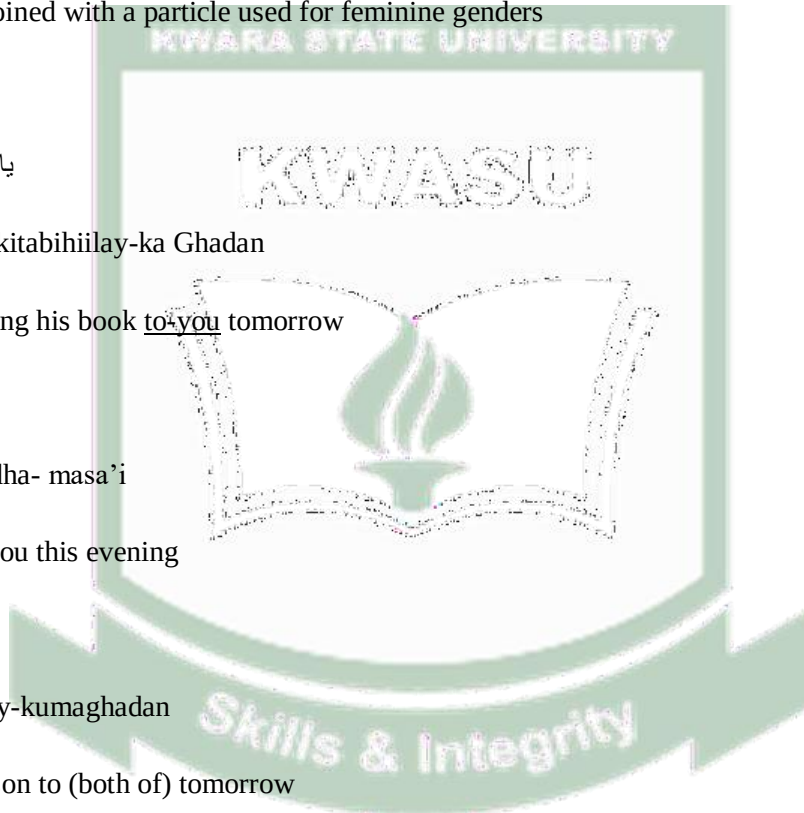
Hadhihi Tahiyah minni ilay-kum

This is greeting from me to-you (all)

أرسلت ابنتك إليك أمس

Arsaltu ibnati ilay-kunnabit'amsi

I sent my daughter to-you (all) yesterday



Below is the table representing the possessive pronouns of the third person singular, dual and plural, showing the differences in the pronoun of Masculine and feminine genders and the way they are used

Possessive with particle متصل بحرف

Feminine مؤنث	3 rd Person الغائب	Masculine مذكر
Singular	To her إليها*	To him مفرد* إليه
Ilay-ha		Ilay-hi Mufrad
Dual	To them (both) إليهما* مثنى	
Ilayhima		Ilay-hima Muthanna
Plural	To them (all) إليهم* جمع	
Ilayhinna		Ilay-him Jam'u

البيان:

إليه: "الهاء المكسرة" ضمير متصل بحرف للمفرد المذكر الغائب

Ilay-hi (To him) "Hi" means "Him" which is a possessive pronoun of the third person singular, joined with a particle and used for masculine gender.

إليها: الهاء المفتوحة: ضمير متصل بحرف للمؤنث الغائبة

Ilay-ha (To her) "Ha" means "her" which is a possessive pronoun of the third person singular, joined with a particle and used for the feminine gender.

إليهما: "هما" ضمير متصل بحرف للمثنى المذكر والمؤنث الغائبين

Ilay-hima (To both of them) "Hima" means "both of them" which is a possessive pronoun of the third person dual, joined with a particle and used for masculine and feminine genders.

إليهم: "هم" ضمير متصل بحرف للجمع المذكر الغائبين

Ilay-hum (To them (all)) "Him" means "Them all" which is a possessive pronoun of the third person plural, joined with a particle and used for masculine gender.

إليهن: "هن" ضمير متصل بحرف للجمع الأنثى الغائبات

Ilay-hinna (To them (all)) “Hinna” means “Them all” which is a possessive pronoun of the third person plural, joined with a particle and used for feminine gender.

الأمثلة

أرسلت كتابا إليها كتبت رسالة إليها

Katabtu resalatani ilayha Arsalatukitabanilayhi

I wrote a letter to her

I sent a book to him

أرسلنا عمدا إليهما

Arsalani ‘Amidu ilayhima

Principal sent me to (both of) them

أرسلنا إليهما أرسلنا إليهن

Ursilnailayhinna ursiltullayhim

We were sent to them (f)

I was sent to them (m)

Conclusion and recommendation

The structure of the Arabic language is quite different from that of the English language. Arabic has a dual form which differentiates its nouns and pronouns from those of English.

The teachers of Islamic studies are therefore expected to take note of those nouns and pronouns and make use of them appropriately while translating the Quran or Hadith to the students.

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