

CG-9: Abstraction

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From The Encyclopedia of Arabic Rhetoric

Definition

This is the abstracting of a general attribute from an individual, using an explicit abstraction formula: "In [the individual] I have [an abstracted trait]". For example: "In my neighbour, I have a true friend." The construct specifically includes prepositions like "li" (ـ) or "bi" (ــ) to indicate that an idealized trait or role exists within the subject.^{[1][2][3]}

Example

فَلَئِنْ بَقِيتُ لِأَحَيٍّ لَعَزُواً نَحْوَ الْغَنَائِمِ أَوْ يَمُوتَ بِي كَرِيمٌ

Should I stay alive, I will embark on a raid... unless [in me] a noble man should die.

- Qatāda ibn Maslama al-Hanafī



التجريد

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Category Linguistic Embellishments ('ilm al-badī')

Subcategory Argumentation & Illustrative Persuasion

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