

Lesson 4: Negative Nominal Sentence Construction

Indefinite Pronoun -??-

An indefinite pronoun is a pronoun that does not refer to any person, place, or thing in particular. Some examples of indefinite pronouns in English are: "anything" - "something" - "anyone" - "anywhere" - "someone" - "somewhere" - etc. The infix -**other** - is a noninflectional word element that is inserted between the noun prefix and the noun. It expresses the meaning "other" and can be used with definite or indefinite articles, demonstrative articles and possessive articles.

ḥmḥm	the other man	Definite Article (m.)
ḥmḥm	the other men	Definite Article (f.)
ḥmḥm ḥm	the other woman	Definite Article (pl.)
ḥmḥm *	another man	Indefinite Article (s.)
ḥmḥmḥm	some other men	Indefinite Article (pl.)
ḥmḥmḥm	this other man	Demonstrative Article (m.)
ḥmḥmḥm	my other man	Possessive Article (1s.)

*Note that for the singular indefinite noun, the singular indefinite article ḥm is dropped. However, in the case of the plural, the plural indefinite article ḥmḥm is kept.

Nominal Sentences: Negative Construction

All of the nominal sentences we have taken so far are of positive construction (e.g. "This man is my father"). Negating the sentence (e.g. "This man is not my father") is achieved by placing the particle ḥm (sometimes ḥm) before the object and ḥm before the copula. Below, we will discuss negating both types of bipartite sentences, and all four types of tripartite sentences that we have taken thus far.

When do we use ḥm versus ḥm ? ḥm is used when the following letter is: ḥ ḥ ḥ ḥ ḥ

<Object> <Copula>

ḥmḥm ḥm	he is my father
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\[he] [is] [not] [my] [father]	he is not my father
[he] [is] [a] [bishop]	he is a bishop
\[he] [is] [not] [a] [bishop]	he is not a bishop

<Subject><Object>

This sentence type cannot be negated. To negate it, you will need a copula which will make it a tripartite sentence.

<Definite Subject> <Copula> <Definite Object>

[this] [man] [is] [my] [father]	this man is my father
\[this] [man] [is] [not] [my] [father]	this man is not my father
[this] [is] [the] [man]	this is the man
\[this] [is] [not] [the] [man]	this is not the man

<Definite Object> <Copula> <Definite Subject>

[my] [father] [is] [this] [man]	my father is this man
\[my] [father] [is] [not] [this] [man]	my father is not this man

<Definite Subject> <Indefinite Object> <Copula>

[my] [mother] [is] [a] [teacher]	my mother is a teacher
\[my] [mother] [is] [not] [a] [teacher]	my mother is not a teacher

<Indefinite Object> <Copula> <Definite Subject>

[I] [am] [a] [woman]	I am a woman
\[I] [am] [not] [a] [woman]	I am not a woman

Application

Application 1:

This is an excerpt from the Orthodox Creed.

