Present Perfect

Past Participle

It is essential to learn about past participle before learning the present perfect tense. Past participle is a noun formed from the stem of a verb and can be used both as a separate noun with its own meaning and as part of a verb in conjugation. In Persian, the past participle is made using the following formula:

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past stem of the verb + the suffix "6"
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Thus, the past participle of the verb "رفتن" ("to go") is "رفته". (We first omitted the letter "ن" from the end of the infinitive to get the past stem, "رفت". We then added the suffix "ه" to the past stem.)

The meaning of past participle nouns in Persian is exactly like English; "رفته" therefore means "gone".

The past participle is a noun and hence in pronunciation, the stress is always on its last syllable.

For combined verbs, the past participle is made using exactly the same formula as above. For example, the past participle of the verb "آب رفتن" ("to shrink") is "آب رفته", literally meaning "shrunk".

Present Perfect - Conjugation

The present perfect is made up of two parts:

- 1. past participle of the verb
- corresponding present simple tense form of the verb "to be" (first conjugation method)
 Here is an example for the verb "to say":

Verb Infinitive: گفت Past Stem: گفت [I] have said. [you] have said. [he/she/it] have said. [we] have said. [we] have said. [you (pl.)] have said. [they] have said. [they] have said.

As you see, two forms are possible for the third person singular. Both are correct but in spoken language, only the first one is used.

Present Perfect - Usage

Persian present perfect is almost exactly like English present perfect in meaning and usage. In pronunciation, the stress is on the last syllable of its past participle part. When it is used in the negative form, like any negative verb, the stress is on the "" prefix.

همه رفتهاند. Everyone has gone.

هنوز آماده نشده است. . [It] has not become ready yet

Nothing has remained for you. چیزی برای تو نمانده.

قرصهایم را خوردهام. I've taken my pills.