

دین

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Azerbaijani

Noun

دین (din) (*definite accusative* دینی (dini), *plural* دینلر (dinlər))

- Arabic spelling of **din** (“religion”)

Declension

Other scripts	
<u>Cyrillic</u>	ДИН
<u>Roman</u>	din
<u>Perso-Arabic</u>	دین

Declension of دین

	singular	plural
nominative	دین	دینلر
definite accusative	دینی	دینلری
dative	دینه	دینلره
locative	دینده	دینلرده
ablative	دیندن	دینلردن
definite genitive	دینین	دینلرین

Ottoman Turkish

Etymology 1

Borrowed from Persian دین.

Noun

دین • (din)

1. religion

Etymology 2

Borrowed from Arabic دین (dayn).

Noun

دین • (deyn)

1. debt

Persian

Etymology 1

From Middle Persian *dyn'* (*dēn*), from Old Persian or Avestan 𐬀𐬎𐬎𐬀 (*daēnā*, “religion, vision”), ultimately from Proto-Indo-Iranian **dʰayHanā-* (compare Sanskrit ध्यान (*dhyāna*)). The broken plural ادیان (*adyān*) is borrowed from Arabic أديان (*'adyān*), plural of دين (*dīn*).

Noun

دين • (dīn) (*plural* دينها (dīn-hâ) or اديان (adyân))

1. religion

Dari Persian	دين
Iranian Persian	دين
Tajik	дин (dīn)

Derived terms

- ديندار (dindār)
- دينور (dinvar)
- بهدين (beh-dīn)
- بيدين (bi-dīn)

Etymology 2

From Arabic دين (dayn), from Ancient Greek δάνειον (dáneion, “loan; debt”).

Noun

دين • (deyn)

1. loan
2. debt

Urdu

Etymology 1

From Sanskrit दीन (dīna).

Adjective

دين • (dīn) (*Hindi spelling* दीन)

1. poor
2. needy
3. indigent
4. distressed

Etymology 2

From Sanskrit दिन (dina).

Adjective

دين • (dain) (*Hindi spelling* دैन)

1. daily
2. diurnal

Etymology 3

From Persian, from Middle Persian *dyn'* (*dēn*).

Noun

دين • (dān) *m* (*Hindi spelling* दीन)

1. faith
2. religion

Etymology 4

From Arabic دَيْن (*dayn*).

Noun

دين • (dain) *m* (*Hindi spelling* دैन)

1. debt
2. loan

Etymology 5

From Sanskrit दीन (*dīna*).

Noun

دين • (dain) *m* (*Hindi spelling* दैन)

1. poverty
2. misery
3. lowliness

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ध्यान

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Hindi

Etymology

Borrowed from Sanskrit ध्यान (*dhyāna*).

Pronunciation

- IPA^(key): /d̪ʱjaːn/

Noun

ध्यान • (dhyān) *m* (Urdu spelling دھیان)

- attention
- meditation, reflection
- consideration, notice, heedfulness, care

ध्यान रखना — *dhyān rakhnā* — to take **care**

ध्यान से — *dhyān se* — **carefully**

Marathi

Etymology

Borrowed from Sanskrit ध्यान (*dhyāna*).

Noun

ध्यान • (dhyān) *m*

1. meditation
 2. attention
-

Sanskrit

Etymology

From the root ध्यै (*dhyai*, “to contemplate, meditate, think of”).

Alternative forms

Alternative scripts

-
- ꣳꣳꣳꣳ (*Balinese script*)
- ধ্যান (*Bengali script*)
- ধ্যান (*Bengali script*)
- 𑀩𑀺𑀭𑀺𑀯𑀸𑀢𑀺 (*Bhaiksuki script*)
- 𑀩𑀺𑀭𑀺 (*Brahmi script*)
- 𑀩𑀺𑀭𑀺 (*Grantha script*)
- દ્યાન (*Gujarati script*)
-
- ꦢꦲꦺꦤ (*Javanese script*)
-
-
- ಧ್ಯಾನ (*Kannada script*)
-
-

-
- ब्रह्म (Burmese script)
-
- ଓଡ଼ିଆ (Oriya script)
- 𑂣𑂧𑂱𑂰 (Saurashtra script)
- 𑂣𑂧𑂱𑂰 (Sharada script)
- 𑂣𑂧𑂱𑂰 (Siddham script)
-
-
- తెలుగు (Telugu script)
-
- ཐཱིཾཾ (Tibetan script)
- 𑀓𑀕𑀢𑀺 (Tirhuta script)

Noun

ध्यान • (dhyāna) ॥

1. meditation, thought, reflection, (especially) profound and abstract religious meditation; a dhyana

dhyānam-√āpad, dhyānam ā-√sthā or dhyānaṃ-√gam — to indulge in religious meditation

2. mental representation of the personal attributes of a deity
3. insensibility, dullness

Declension

Neuter a-stem declension of ध्यान

	Singular	Dual	Plural
<i>Nominative</i>	<u>ध्यानम्</u> (dhyānam)	<u>ध्याने</u> (dhyāne)	<u>ध्यानानि</u> (dhyānāni)
<i>Vocative</i>	<u>ध्यान</u> (dhyāna)	<u>ध्याने</u> (dhyāne)	<u>ध्यानानि</u> (dhyānāni)
<i>Accusative</i>	<u>ध्यानम्</u> (dhyānam)	<u>ध्याने</u> (dhyāne)	<u>ध्यानानि</u> (dhyānāni)
<i>Instrumental</i>	<u>ध्यानेन</u> (dhyānena)	<u>ध्यानाभ्याम्</u> (dhyānābhyām)	<u>ध्यानैः</u> (dhyānaiḥ)
<i>Dative</i>	<u>ध्यानाय</u> (dhyānāya)	<u>ध्यानाभ्याम्</u> (dhyānābhyām)	<u>ध्यानेभ्यः</u> (dhyānebhyaḥ)
<i>Ablative</i>	<u>ध्यानात्</u> (dhyānāt)	<u>ध्यानाभ्याम्</u> (dhyānābhyām)	<u>ध्यानेभ्यः</u> (dhyānebhyaḥ)
<i>Genitive</i>	<u>ध्यानस्य</u> (dhyānasya)	<u>ध्यानयोः</u> (dhyānayoh)	<u>ध्यानानाम्</u> (dhyānānām)

Descendants

- → Bengali: ধ্যান (ddhan)
- → Chinese: 禪那 / 禪那 (chánnuó) ~ 禪 / 禪 (chán)
 - → Japanese: 禪那 (zenna) ~ 禪 (zen)
 - → English: Zen
 - → French: zen
 - → German: Zen
 - → Korean: 선 (seon)
 - → Thai: เชิน (seen)
 - → Vietnamese: thiền na ~ thiền
- → English: dhyana
- → Gujarati: ધ્યાન (dhyān)
- → Hindustani:
 - Hindi: ध्यान (dhyān)
 - Urdu: دھیان (dhyān)
- → Kannada: ಧ್ಯಾನ (dhyāna)
- → Marathi: ध्यान (dhyān)
- → Pali: jhāna
 - → Burmese: ချာန် (jhan)
 - → Khmer: ឈីន (chiən)
 - → Thai: ฌาน (chaan)
- → Tamil: தீயானம் (tiyāṇam)
- → Telugu: ధ్యానం (dhyānaṁ)
- → Tibetan: བསམ་གཏན (bsam gtan) (*calque*)

Proper noun

ध्यान • (Dhyāna) *m.*

1. name of a particular personification
 2. name of the 11th day of the light half in Brahma's month
-

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1. apostate

مړتد، له **دين** څخه آوښتنی

2. Baha'ı [Religion]

د بها بهایي **دين**

3. Bahaism

د بها بهایي **دين**

4. dissenter

کافر، بې ایمانه، په بل **دين**

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دين

See also: دين

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Arabic

Etymology 1

A historically conflated term derived from multiple layers of phono-semantic matching:

- Initially stemming from Proto-Semitic **dVn-* (“obligated conduct; decisions of morality or ethics, judgement, decree, ruling”), where in Arabia it took specifically the foremost connotation of obligations, duty, what is expected or owed; hence also the sense of a monetary debt along with that which is owed to society ethically.

- Cognate terms in other Semitic languages also came with a more developed legal sense, rulings, a set of obligations, a law code; these senses were bolstered semantically borrowing from Aramaic ܕܝܢܐ (*dīnā*), Classical Syriac ܕܝܢܐ (*dīnā*, “judgement”), Hebrew דין (*din*), Ge'ez ደይን (*däyn*, “judgement”), which likely had their specified development from Akkadian 𒂗𒍪 (/dēnu, dīnu/, “judgement, decision, verdict; legal practice, article of law, precedent; lawsuit, claim, legal case; court conduct, procedures, rule of law”).
- The sense of religious creed or a system of religious rules is borrowed directly from Middle Persian [Book Pahlavi needed] (*dyn' /dēn/*), which is from Old Persian [script needed] (*dēn*) which underwent influence from Akkadian when the Achaemenid Empire incorporated its Semitic kingdoms; the term already having a predecessor with a religious sense in Avestan 𐬀𐬎𐬎𐬀 (*daēnā*), which is possibly akin to Sanskrit ध्यान (*dhyāna*) whence *zen* and possibly derives from Elamite 𐎠𐎺𐎠 (/dēn/), itself potentially developing from the Akkadian legal sense; religious obligation to deities, the system or conduct of the priesthood regarding divinities.
- The Qur'ān and later Islamic scholarship adds an additional layer of phono-semantic matching, melding the native significances with the connotations imparted by the languages of their neighbors, both from the Semitic family and those not.

Pronunciation

- IPA^(key): /di:n/

Noun

دين • (dīn) ۞ (plural اَدْيَانُ ('adyān))

1. verbal noun of دَانَ (*dāna*, “to be religious”) (*form I*)
2. (countable, uncountable) religion, creed, credo, faith, conviction, belief, tenet, rite
3. (uncountable, verbal noun) conformism, conformance, conformity, compliance, fealty, obedience; God-fearingness, godliness, religiosity, devoutness
4. law, obligations, duty
5. custom, habit

لَيْسَ هَذَا مِنْ دِينِي وَلَا دَيْدَنِي

laysa hādā min dīnī walā daydanī

This is not according to my habit nor to my wont.

6. judgement, decision, ruling

1. (rare) requital, compensation, indemnification
2. (rare) credit, obligation, account, falling due of a debt

Declension

Declension of noun دِينَ (dīn)

Singular	basic singular triptote		
	Indefinite	Definite	Construct
Informal	دِين dīn	الدِّين ad-dīn	دِين dīn
Nominative	دِينُ dīnun	الدِّينُ ad-dīnu	دِينُ dīnu
Accusative	دِينًا dīnan	الدِّينَ ad-dīna	دِينَ dīna
Genitive	دِينِ dīnin	الدِّينِ ad-dīni	دِينِ dīni
Dual	Indefinite	Definite	Construct
Informal	دَيْتَيْنِ dīnayn	الدَّيْتَيْنِ ad-dīnayn	دَيْتَيْ dīnay
Nominative	دَيْتَانِ dīnāni	الدَّيْتَانِ ad-dīnāni	دَيْتَا dīnā
Accusative	دَيْتَيْنِ dīnayni	الدَّيْتَيْنِ ad-dīnayni	دَيْتَيْ dīnay
Genitive	دَيْتَيْنِ dīnayni	الدَّيْتَيْنِ ad-dīnayni	دَيْتَيْ dīnay
Plural	Indefinite	Definite	Construct
Informal	أَدْيَانِ 'adyān	الأَدْيَانِ al-'adyān	أَدْيَانِ 'adyān
Nominative	أَدْيَانُ 'adyānun	الأَدْيَانُ al-'adyānu	أَدْيَانُ 'adyānu
Accusative	أَدْيَانًا 'adyānan	الأَدْيَانَ al-'adyāna	أَدْيَانَ 'adyāna
Genitive	أَدْيَانِ 'adyānin	الأَدْيَانِ al-'adyāni	أَدْيَانِ 'adyāni

Derived terms

- دِينِيَّ (dīniyy)
- يَوْمُ الدِّينِ (yawmu d-dīni, “day of judgment”)
- صَلَاحُ الدِّينِ (ṣalāḥ ad-dīn, “Saladin”)
- عِلَاءُ الدِّينِ ('alā' ad-dīn, “Aladdin”)

Related terms

- دِيَّانِ (dayyān)
- دِيَّانَةَ (diyāna)
- دِينِيَّ (dīniyy)
- مُتَدَيِّينِ (mutadayyin)

- مُتَدَيِّتَةٌ (mutadayyina)

Borrowed terms

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| ▪ Azerbaijani: din | ▪ Hindi: दीन (dīn) | ▪ Kazakh: дін (din) | ▪ Swahili: dini |
| ▪ Avar: дин (din) | ▪ Indonesian: din | ▪ Kyrgyz: дин (din) | ▪ Tajik: дин (din) |
| ▪ Bashkir: дин (din) | ▪ Kurdish: | ▪ Malay: din | ▪ Tatar: дин (din) |
| ▪ Chechen: дин (din) | Northern Kurdish: dīn | ▪ Pashto: دین (din) | ▪ Turkish: din |
| ▪ Chuvash: тӗн (tĕn) | Central Kurdish: | ▪ Persian: دین (din) | ▪ Turkmen: din |
| ▪ Crimean Tatar: din | Kurdish: دین (dīn) | ▪ Ossetian: дин (din) | ▪ Uyghur: دىن (din) |
| | | ▪ Santali: ᱫᱷᱟᱱ (din) | ▪ Urdu: دین (dīn) |
| | | | ▪ Uzbek: din |

Etymology 2

From the verb دَانَ (dāna, “to hold religion”).

Pronunciation

- IPA^(key): /daj.jin/

Adjective

دَيِّنٌ • (dayyin) (*feminine* دَيِّتَةٌ (dayyina), *masculine plural* دَيِّونَ (dayyinūna), *feminine plural* دَيِّنَاتٌ (dayyināt))

1. religious, pious, godly, God-fearing, devout

Declension

Declension of adjective دَيِّنٌ (dayyin)				
	Masculine		Feminine	
Singular	basic singular triptote		singular triptote in َة (-a)	
	Indefinite	Definite	Indefinite	Definite
Informal	دَيِّنٌ dayyin	الدَّيِّنُ ad-dayyin	دَيِّتَةٌ dayyina	الدَّيِّتَةُ ad-dayyina
Nominative	دَيِّنٌ dayyinun	الدَّيِّنُ ad-dayyinu	دَيِّتَةٌ dayyinatun	الدَّيِّتَةُ ad-dayyinatun
Accusative	دَيِّنًا dayyinan	الدَّيِّنَ ad-dayyina	دَيِّتَةً dayyinatun	الدَّيِّتَةَ ad-dayyinata
Genitive	دَيِّنٍ dayyinin	الدَّيِّنِ ad-dayyini	دَيِّتَةٍ dayyinatun	الدَّيِّتَةِ ad-dayyinati
Dual		Masculine		Feminine
	Indefinite	Definite	Indefinite	Definite
Informal	دَيِّينِ dayyinayn	الدَّيِّينِ ad-dayyinayn	دَيِّينِ dayyinatayn	الدَّيِّينِ ad-dayyinatayn

Nominative	دَيَّانَ dayyināni	الدَّيَّانَ ad-dayyināni	دَيَّتَانِ dayyinatāni	الدَّيَّتَانِ ad-dayyinatāni
Accusative	دَيَّيْنَ dayyinayni	الدَّيَّيْنَ ad-dayyinayni	دَيَّتَيْنِ dayyinatayni	الدَّيَّتَيْنِ ad-dayyinatayni
Genitive	دَيَّيْنِ dayyinayni	الدَّيَّيْنِ ad-dayyinayni	دَيَّتَيْنِ dayyinatayni	الدَّيَّتَيْنِ ad-dayyinatayni
	Masculine		Feminine	
Plural	sound masculine plural		sound feminine plural	
	Indefinite		Definite	
Informal	دَيَّيْنِ dayyinān	الدَّيَّيْنِ ad-dayyinān	دَيَّتَاتِ dayyinatāt	الدَّيَّتَاتِ ad-dayyinatāt
Nominative	دَيَّوْنَ dayyinūna	الدَّيَّوْنَ ad-dayyinūna	دَيَّتَاتُ dayyinatātun	الدَّيَّتَاتُ ad-dayyinatātun
Accusative	دَيَّيْنَ dayyināna	الدَّيَّيْنَ ad-dayyināna	دَيَّتَاتِ dayyinatātin	الدَّيَّتَاتِ ad-dayyinatāti
Genitive	دَيَّيْنِ dayyināna	الدَّيَّيْنِ ad-dayyināna	دَيَّتَاتِ dayyinatātin	الدَّيَّتَاتِ ad-dayyinatāti

Etymology 3

Causative of the verb دَانَ (dāna, “to be a debtor”) from the ن د ي (d-y-n).

Pronunciation

- IPA^(key): /daj.ja.na/

Verb

دَيَّنَ • (dayyana) II, non-past يُدَيِّنُ (yudayyinu)

- to loan, to lend, to advance

Conjugation

Conjugation of دَيَّنَ (form-II sound)							
verbal noun المَصْدَرُ				تَدْيِينٌ tadyīn			
active participle إِسْمُ الْقَاعِلِ				مُدَيِّنٌ mudayyin			
passive participle إِسْمُ الْمَفْعُولِ				مُدَيَّنٌ mudayyan			
active voice الْفِعْلُ الْمَعْلُومُ							
		singular المُفْرَدُ		dual المُتَنِيّ		plural الجَمْعُ	
	1 st person أَنَا	2 nd person المُخَاطَبُ	3 rd person هُوَ	2 nd person المُخَاطَبُ	3 rd person الْعَائِبُ	1 st person أَنَا	2 nd person لِمُخَاطَبٍ

		الْمُتَكَلِّمُ		الْغَائِبُ				الْمُتَكَلِّمُ	
past (perfect) indicative الْمَاضِي	m	دَيْتُ	دَيْتُ	دَيْنُ	دَيْتُمَا	دَيْتَا	دَيْتَا	دَيْتُمَا	دَيْتُمَا
	f		دَيْتُ	دَيْتُ		دَيْتَانَا			دَيْتَانَا
non-past (imperfect) indicative الْمُضَارِعُ	m	أَدِينُ	تُدَيْيِنُ	يُدَيْيِنُ	تُدَيْيِنَانِي	يُدَيْيِنَانِي	نُدَيْيِنُ	نُدَيْيِنُ	تُدَيْيِنُونَ
	f		تُدَيْيِنِينَ	تُدَيْيِنُ		تُدَيْيِنَانِي			تُدَيْيِنَانِي
subjunctive الْمُضَارِعُ الْمَنْصُوبُ	m	أَدِينِ	تُدَيْيِنِ	يُدَيْيِنِ	تُدَيْيِنَا	يُدَيْيِنَا	نُدَيْيِنِ	نُدَيْيِنِ	تُدَيْيِنُوا
	f		تُدَيْيِنِي	تُدَيْيِنِ		تُدَيْيِنَا			تُدَيْيِنَا
jussive الْمُضَارِعُ الْمَجْرُومُ	m	أَدِينِ	تُدَيْيِنِ	يُدَيْيِنِ	تُدَيْيِنَا	يُدَيْيِنَا	نُدَيْيِنِ	نُدَيْيِنِ	تُدَيْيِنُوا
	f		تُدَيْيِنِي	تُدَيْيِنِ		تُدَيْيِنَا			تُدَيْيِنَا
imperative الْأَمْرُ	m		دَيْنِ		دَيْتَا				دَيْتُوا
	f		دَيْيِنِي			دَيْيِنَا			دَيْيِنَا

passive voice
الْفِعْلُ الْمَجْهُولُ

		singular الْمُفْرَدُ			dual الْمُتَنِي		plural الْجَمْعُ	
		1st person الْمُتَكَلِّمُ	2nd person الْمُخَاطَبُ	3rd person الْغَائِبُ	2nd person الْمُخَاطَبُ	3rd person الْغَائِبُ	1st person الْمُتَكَلِّمُ	2nd person الْمُخَاطَبُ
past (perfect) indicative الْمَاضِي	m	دُيْتُ	دُيْتُ	دُيِنُ	دُيْتُمَا	دُيِنَا	دُيِنَا	دُيْتُمَا
	f		دُيْتُ	دُيْتُ		دُيِنَانَا		دُيِنَانَا
non-past (imperfect) indicative الْمُضَارِعُ	m	أُدِينُ	تُدَيْيِنُ	يُدَيْيِنُ	تُدَيْيِنَانِي	يُدَيْيِنَانِي	نُدَيْيِنُ	تُدَيْيِنُونَ
	f		تُدَيْيِنِينَ	تُدَيْيِنُ		تُدَيْيِنَانِي		تُدَيْيِنَانِي
subjunctive الْمُضَارِعُ الْمَنْصُوبُ	m	أَدِينِ	تُدَيْيِنِ	يُدَيْيِنِ	تُدَيْيِنَا	يُدَيْيِنَا	نُدَيْيِنِ	تُدَيْيِنُوا
	f		تُدَيْيِنِي	تُدَيْيِنِ		تُدَيْيِنَا		تُدَيْيِنَا
jussive الْمُضَارِعُ الْمَجْرُومُ	m	أَدِينِ	تُدَيْيِنِ	يُدَيْيِنِ	تُدَيْيِنَا	يُدَيْيِنَا	نُدَيْيِنِ	تُدَيْيِنُوا
	f		تُدَيْيِنِي	تُدَيْيِنِ		تُدَيْيِنَا		تُدَيْيِنَا

Related terms

- إِدَانَةٌ ('idāna)
- إِسْتِدَانَةٌ (istidāna)
- دَائِنٌ (dā'in)
- دَيْنُونَةٌ (daynūna)
- مُدَانٌ (mudān)
- مَدِينٌ (madīn)
- مُدِينٌ (mudīn)
- مَدْيُونٌ (madyūn)
- مَدْيُونِيَّةٌ (madyūniyya, "indebtedness")

Etymology 4

From the root **د ي ن** (d-y-n).

Pronunciation

- IPA^(key): /dajn/
- (Egypt) IPA^(key): /de:n/

Noun

دَيْنٌ • (dayn) *m* (plural **دُيُونٌ** (duyūn) or **أَدْيُونٌ** ('adyun))

1. verbal noun of **دَانَ** (dāna) (form I)
2. debt, debit, liability, pecuniary, obligation, financial claim

Synonyms: **سَلَفٌ** (salaf), **قَرْضٌ** (qarḍ)

Declension

Declension of noun **دَيْنٌ** (dayn)

Singular	basic singular triptote		
	Indefinite	Definite	Construct
Informal	دَيْنٌ dayn	الدَّيْنُ ad-dayn	دَيْنٌ dayn
Nominative	دَيْنٌ daynun	الدَّيْنُ ad-daynu	دَيْنٌ daynu
Accusative	دَيْنًا daynan	الدَّيْنَ ad-dayna	دَيْنَ dayna
Genitive	دَيْنٍ dāynin	الدَّيْنِ ad-dayni	دَيْنِ dāyni

Dual	Indefinite	Definite	Construct
Informal	دَيِّنِينَ daynayn	الدَّيِّنِينَ ad-daynayn	دَيِّنِي daynay
Nominative	دَيِّنَانِ daynāni	الدَّيِّنَانِ ad-daynāni	دَيِّنَا daynā
Accusative	دَيِّنِينَ daynayni	الدَّيِّنِينَ ad-daynayni	دَيِّنِي daynay
Genitive	دَيِّنِينَ daynayni	الدَّيِّنِينَ ad-daynayni	دَيِّنِي daynay
Plural		basic broken plural triptote	
	Indefinite	Definite	Construct
Informal	أَدْيُونُ; دَيُّونُ duyūn; 'adyun	الأَدْيُونُ; الدَّيُّونُ ad-duyūn; al-'adyun	أَدْيُونُ; دَيُّونُ duyūn; 'adyun
Nominative	أَدْيُونُنُ; دَيُّونُنُ duyūnun; 'adyunun	الأَدْيُونُنُ; الدَّيُّونُنُ ad-duyūnu; al-'adyunu	أَدْيُونُ; دَيُّونُ duyūnu; 'adyunu
Accusative	أَدْيُونًا; دَيُّونًا duyūnan; 'adyunan	الأَدْيُونَ; الدَّيُّونَ ad-duyūna; al-'adyuna	أَدْيُونَ; دَيُّونَ duyūna; 'adyuna
Genitive	أَدْيُونِ; دَيُّونِ duyūnin; 'adyunin	الأَدْيُونِ; الدَّيُّونِ ad-duyūni; al-'adyuni	أَدْيُونِ; دَيُّونِ duyūni; 'adyuni

Etymology 5

See the etymology of the main entry.

Pronunciation

- IPA^(key): /diː.na/

Verb

دِينَ • (dīna) (*form I*)

- third-person masculine singular past passive of دَانَ (dāna)

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Din (Arabic)

Dīn (Arabic: دين, romanized: *Dīn*, also anglicized as **Deen**) is an Arabic word with three general senses: judgment, custom, and religion.^[1] It is used by both Arab Muslims and Christians.

In Islam, the word refers to the way of life Muslims must adopt to comply with divine law, encompassing beliefs, character and deeds.^[2] The term appears in the Quran 98 times with different connotations, including in the phrase *yawm al-din*, generally translated to "Day of Judgment" or the famous verse "*lā ikraha fī 'd-dīn*" which translates to "Let there be no compulsion in religion." (Abdullah Yusuf Ali Translation).

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Etymology

The Arabic *dīn* has Semitic cognates, including the Hebrew "dīn" (דִּין), Aramaic *dīnā* (ܕܝܢܐ), Amharic *dañä* (ድንኳን) and Ugaritic *dyn* (𐎠𐎢𐎣).

The Arabic sense of judgment is commonly derived from the Hebraeo-Aramaic root.^[1] The Hebrew term "דִּין", transliterated as "dīn", means either "law" or "judgement". In the Kabbalah of Judaism, the term can, alongside "Gevurah" (cognate to the feminine form of Arabic adjective "*Jabārah* جَبَّارَة"), refer to "power" and "judgement".^[3] In ancient Israel, the term featured heavily in administrative and legal proceedings i.e. Bet Din, literally "the house of judgement," the ancient building block of the Jewish legal system.^{[4][5]}

Some scholars such as Nöldeke and Vollers have derived the Arabic sense of religion from the Middle Persian *den* (revelation, religion) connected with the Zoroastrian notion *daena*. Others, like Gaudefroy-Demombynes and Gardet, have found this derivation unconvincing.^[1]

The Arabic sense "custom, usage" has been derived by classical and modern lexicologists from the Arabic verbal forms *dāna* (دَانَى, "be indebted") and *dāna li-* (دَانَى لـ, "submit to").^[1] Louis Gardet sees the Hebraic and Arabic senses as related through the notions of retribution, debt, obligation, custom, and direction, prompting him to translate *yawn al-din* as "the day when God gives a direction to each human being".^[1]

Use in Islam

It has been said that the word *Dīn* appears in as many as 79 verses in the Qur'an,^[6] but because there is no exact English translation of the term, its precise definition has been the subject of some misunderstanding and disagreement. For instance, the term is often translated in parts of the Qur'an as "religion".^[7]

Some Qur'anic scholars have translated *Dīn* in places as "faith"^[8] Others suggest that the term "has been used in various forms and meanings, e.g., system, power, supremacy, ascendancy, sovereignty or lordship, dominion, law, constitution, mastery, government, realm, decision, definite outcome, reward and punishment. On the other hand, this word is also used in the sense of obedience, submission and allegiance".^[9]

In addition to the two broad usages referred to so far, of sovereignty on the one hand and submission on the other, others have noted^[10] that the term *Dīn* is also widely used in translations of the Qur'an in a third sense. Most famously in its opening chapter, al-Fātiḥah, the term is translated in almost all English translations as "judgment":

1:3 **مَلِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ** transliterated as "Maliki yawmi **ad-Dīni**," and (usually) translated as "Master of the Day of Judgment".

The well-known Islamic scholar, Fazlur Rahman Malik, suggested that *Dīn* is best considered as "the way-to-be-followed". In that interpretation, *Dīn* is the exact correlate of *Shari'a*: "whereas *Shari'a* is the ordaining of the Way and its proper subject is God, *Dīn* is the following of that Way, and its subject is man".^[11] Thus, "if we abstract from the Divine and the human points of reference, *Shari'a* and *Dīn* would be identical as far as the 'Way' and its content are concerned".^[11]

In many hadith, the *din* has been described as a midway lifestyle:

Narrated Abu Huraira, the Prophet said, "Religion (*Dīn*) is very easy and whoever overburdens himself in his religion will not be able to continue in that way. So you should not be extremists, but try to be near to perfection and receive the good tidings that you will be rewarded; and gain strength by worshipping in the mornings, the nights."

— *Sahih al-Bukhari*, 1:2:38 (<https://web.archive.org/web/19700101010101/http://cmje.usc.edu/religious-texts/hadith/bukhari/002-sbt.php#001.002.038>), (Fath-ul-Bari, Page 102, Vol 1)

See also

- List of Islamic terms in Arabic
- Sharia
- Christian worldview
- Kabbalah
- Wasatiyyah (Islamic term)

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External links

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