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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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bak-sheesh 🗣️ (băk shēsh', băk-shēsh)

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n. pl. baksheesh

A gratuity, tip, or bribe paid to expedite service, especially in the Near East.

[Persian *bakhshish*, present, from Middle Persian *bakhshishn*, from *bakhshīdan*, *bakhsh-*, to give presents, from Avestan *bakhsh-*; see **bhag-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

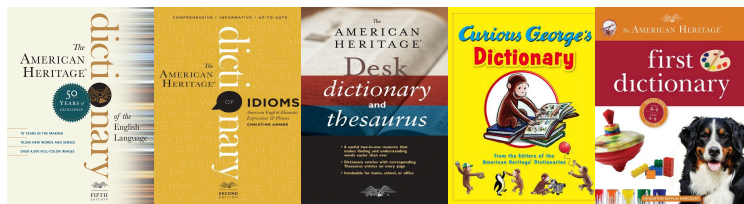
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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