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AMERICAN
HERITAGE®

dictionary

of the
English
Language



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-cracy

suff.

Government; rule: *meritocracy*.

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[French *-cratie*, from Old French, from Late Latin *-cratia*, from Greek *-kratiā*, from *kratos*, strength, power; see **kar-** [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](#)

[Semitic Roots](#)

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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