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Shi·va (shē və) also **Si·va** (shē və, sē -)

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n.

Hinduism

One of the principal Hindu deities, worshiped as the destroyer and restorer of worlds and in numerous other forms. Shiva is often conceived as a member of the Trimurti, along with Brahma and Vishnu.

[Sanskritśivaḥ, fromśiva-, auspicious, dear; see **kei-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.](#)]

Shi va·ism, Si va·ism*n.*

Shi va·ist, Si va·ist*n.*



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Shiva

13th-century Indian bronze statue

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shiv·a also **shiv·ah** or **shib·ah** (shīv ə)

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n.

Judaism

A seven-day period of formal mourning observed after the funeral of a close relative.

[Yiddishshive, fromHebrewšib'ā, seven; see **šb'** [in the Appendix of Semitic roots.](#)]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

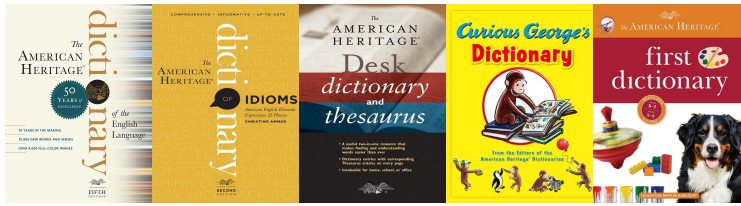
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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