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nam·as·kar  (nŭm'əs-kär)

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n.

A polite or respectful gesture of greeting or farewell widely used among Hindus and made by pressing the palms together at an upward angle in front of the chest and generally accompanied by a slight bow.

interj.

Used to express a polite or respectful greeting or farewell.

[Ultimately (via Hindi, Punjabi, and other South Asian languages) from Sanskrit *namaskārah*, act of saying *namaḥ* in homage : *namaḥ*, *namas-*, homage, obeisance; see **nem-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + *kāra-*, doing, making (from *karoti*, he makes; see **k^wer-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

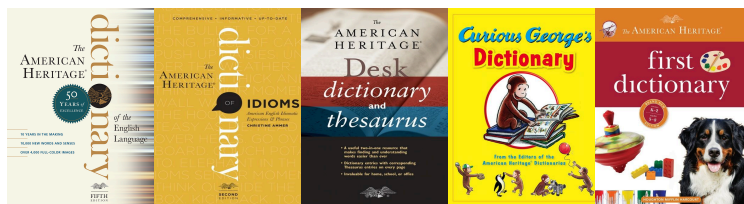
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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