

## ἱεροφάντης ✓

[www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l...la=greek...](http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/morph?l...la=greek...) ▾ Perseus Project ▾

**hierophant**, one who teaches rites of sacrifice and worship. (Show lexicon entry in ...  
ind act doric contr. [ἱεροφάντης](#), verb 2nd sg imperf ind act doric aeolic contr ...

## ἱεροφάντης ✓

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[ἱεροφάντης](#). **hierophant**, one who teaches rites of sacrifice and worship. (Show lexicon  
entry in LSJ Middle Liddell) (search) ...

## Definition of hierophantia - Numen - The Latin Lexicon ✓

[latinlexicon.org/definition.php?p1=2025582](http://latinlexicon.org/definition.php?p1=2025582) ▾

hierophanta or -tēs, ae, m., = [ἱεροφάντης](#), a teacher of religious rites and ceremonies,  
a high-priest, **hierophant**, Arn. 5, 174; Hier. adv. Jovin. 1, 49 fin.: agrorum ...

## Ancient Gospel or Modern Forgery?: The Secret Gospel of ... ✓

[books.google.com/books?isbn=1620321866](http://books.google.com/books?isbn=1620321866)

Tony Burke - 2013 - Religion

... the prophet, and learnt that he was not only initiated (μύστης), but was also a  
competent **hierophant** ([ἱεροφάντης](#)), did not hesitate to become his pupil" (Cher.

## Eurymedon the Hierophant - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia ◀

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eurymedon\\_the\\_Hierophant](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eurymedon_the_Hierophant) ▾ Wikipedia ▾

Eurymedon the **Hierophant** (/jʊˈrɪmɪdɒn/; Greek: Εύρυμέδων ὁ [ἱεροφάντης](#)) was the  
representative of Demetra of Eleusis. Together with the school of ...

## hierophant - Wiktionary ✓

[en.wiktionary.org/wiki/hierophant](http://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/hierophant) ▾ Wiktionary ▾

From Ancient Greek [ἱεροφάντης](#) (hierophántēs), from ἱερός (hierós, "holy") + ... the  
Catholic festivals of this day), probably, made a main duty of the **Hierophant**.

## myEtymology.com: Latin etymology of hierophant ✓

[www.myetymology.com/latin/hierophant.html](http://www.myetymology.com/latin/hierophant.html) ▾

Definition and etymology of the Latin word **hierophant**. ... derived from the Greek word  
hierophantes, [ἱεροφάντης](#), [ἱεροφάντης](#). derived from the Late Greek ...

## myEtymology.com: English etymology of hierophant ✓

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word hierophantes, [ἱεροφάντης](#), [ἱεροφάντης](#). derived from the Late Greek ...

# hierophant

Definition from Wiktionary, the free dictionary

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## English

### Etymology

From Ancient Greek ἱεροφάντης (*hierophántēs*), from ἱερός (*hierós*, “holy”) + φαίνω (*phaínō*, “I show, make known”)

### Pronunciation

- IPA<sup>(key)</sup>: /ˈhaɪəɹəˌfænt/

### Noun

**hierophant** (*plural hierophants*)

1. An ancient Greek priest who interpreted sacred mysteries, especially the priest of the Eleusinian mysteries.
2. An interpreter of sacred mysteries or arcane knowledge.
3. One who explains or makes a commentary.

### Quotations

- **1837**: The exhibition of ancient statues, relics, and symbols, concealed from daily adoration (as in the Catholic festivals of this day), probably, made a main duty of the **Hierophant**. — Edward Bulwer-Lytton, *Athens: Its Rise and Fall*, 1837

- **1894**: Thus I became the **hierophant** of those three worthy and talented men, who, in spite of their literary accomplishments, were not wise, since they were infatuated with occult and fabulous sciences, and believed in the existence of phenomena impossible in the moral as well as in the physical order of things. — Arthur Machen, translation of *Memoirs of Jacques Casanova de Seingalt*, 1894.
- **1975**: Ambassadors of northern countries stand / Impassive while our **hierophants** intone / Long canticles of Christ the Contraband: / Our grandees' hearts are shrunk to kidney stones. — Peter Porter, in 'Baroque Quatrains Dedicated to James Fenton', in *Living in a Calm Country*, 1975
- **1987**: No, I must play creator / And make them up, these **hierophants**. — Peter Porter, in 'A Tribute to my enemies', in *The Automatic Oracle*, 1987

## Derived terms

- hierophantic
- hierophantically

## Related terms

- hierophany

## Translations

<b>ancient Greek priest</b>	[show ▼]
<b>interpreter of sacred mysteries</b>	[show ▼]
<b>one who explains or makes a commentary</b>	[show ▼]

## See also

- Hieromnemon

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Categories: English terms derived from Ancient Greek | English lemmas | English nouns | English countable nouns | en:Divination

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# Hierophant

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

A **hierophant** is a person who brings religious congregants into the presence of that which is deemed *holy*. The word comes from Ancient Greece, where it was constructed from the combination of *ta hiera*, "the holy," and *phainein*, "to show." In Attica it was the title of the chief priest at the Eleusinian Mysteries. A hierophant is an interpreter of sacred mysteries and arcane principles.

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## Rider Waite Tarot

In the Rider Waite Tarot deck and similar decks, "The Hierophant" (sometimes called "The Pope") is one of the twenty-two trump cards comprising the "Major Arcana", and represents conformity to social standards, or a deference to the established social moral order. As the guide towards knowledge, insight, and wisdom, in a tarot reading it might, for example, represent a priest, scholar, therapist, or teacher although these individuals are more definitively represented by the Hermit, or suggested by the traits attributed to the King of Cups.

## Notable hierophants

- Eunapius
- Nestorius
- Priskus

## See also

- Mystagogue
- Daduchos
- Pontifex, "bridge-builder" between heaven and earth or between the spiritual world and the temporal one
- Patriarchate
- Sacred Mysteries

## References

- Britannica article (<http://www.britannica.com/eb/article-9040388/hierophant>)
- The last hierophant at Eleusis (<http://www.csun.edu/~hcfl1004/hierophant.html>)
- Dictionary definition (<http://www.yourdictionary.com/hierophant>)
- Definition from alt religion (<http://altreligion.about.com/library/glossary/bldefhierophant.htm>)

### **Occult tarot**

- Explanation (<http://www.writerinthefwindow.com/hierophant.htm>)
- Hierophant or Pope Tarot card (<http://www.bewitchingways.com/tarot/major/hierophant.htm>)

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Categories: Eleusinian Mysteries | Esoteric schools of thought | Ancient Greek titles

| Ancient Athenian religious titles

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