

The etymology of the term "Government/Regierung"

Description

steering-wheel-4010079

The German term for government is "Regierung", or alternatively "Gubernative". In Latin, "Gubernaculum" refers to a steering oar or a rudder. The "Ship of State" metaphor was put forth by Plato in his *Res Publica* (lat.: Politea) ? 380 BC. It likens the governance of a city-state to the command of a naval vessel and ultimately argues that the only human beings qualified to be the steersmen of this ship are philosopher kings who possesses both a love of wisdom, as well as intelligence, reliability, and a willingness to live a simple life, viz., benevolent men with absolute power who have access to the "the idea of the good" (? ??? ?????? ???). Plato writes: "*philosophers [must] become kings...or those now called kings [must] ... genuinely and adequately philosophize.*" The term cybernetics was also utilized by Plato in the context of "the study of self-governance" in the *Alcibiades* to signify the governance of people.

Likewise, *kubern?tikós* translates as "good at steering" from ????????? (kuberná?, "I steer, guide"). In English, the term *Cybernetics* was coined by U.S. mathematician Norbert Wiener in 1948. The term *Cybernetics* is etymologically derived from the Greek ????????? (cybern?t?s) "steersman, rudder, governor". In French, the term "Cybernétique" was first introduced by the physicist and mathematician André-Marie Ampère in 1834 his *Essai sur la philosophie des sciences* in order to refer to the application of science to civil government.

References

1578, Henri Estienne (ed.), *Platonis opera quae extant omnia*, Vol. 2.

1834, Ampère André-Marie, *Essai sur la philosophie des sciences, ou Exposition analytique d'une classification naturelle de toutes les connaissances humaines*. Paris.

1948, Norbert Wiener, *Cybernetics: Or Control and Communication in the Animal and the Machine*. Paris, (Hermann & Cie) & Camb. Mass. (MIT Press) ISBN 978-0-262-73009-9; 2nd revised ed. 1961.

1950, Norbert Wiener, *The Human Use of Human Beings*. The Riverside Press (Houghton Mifflin Co.).

Image not found or type unknown

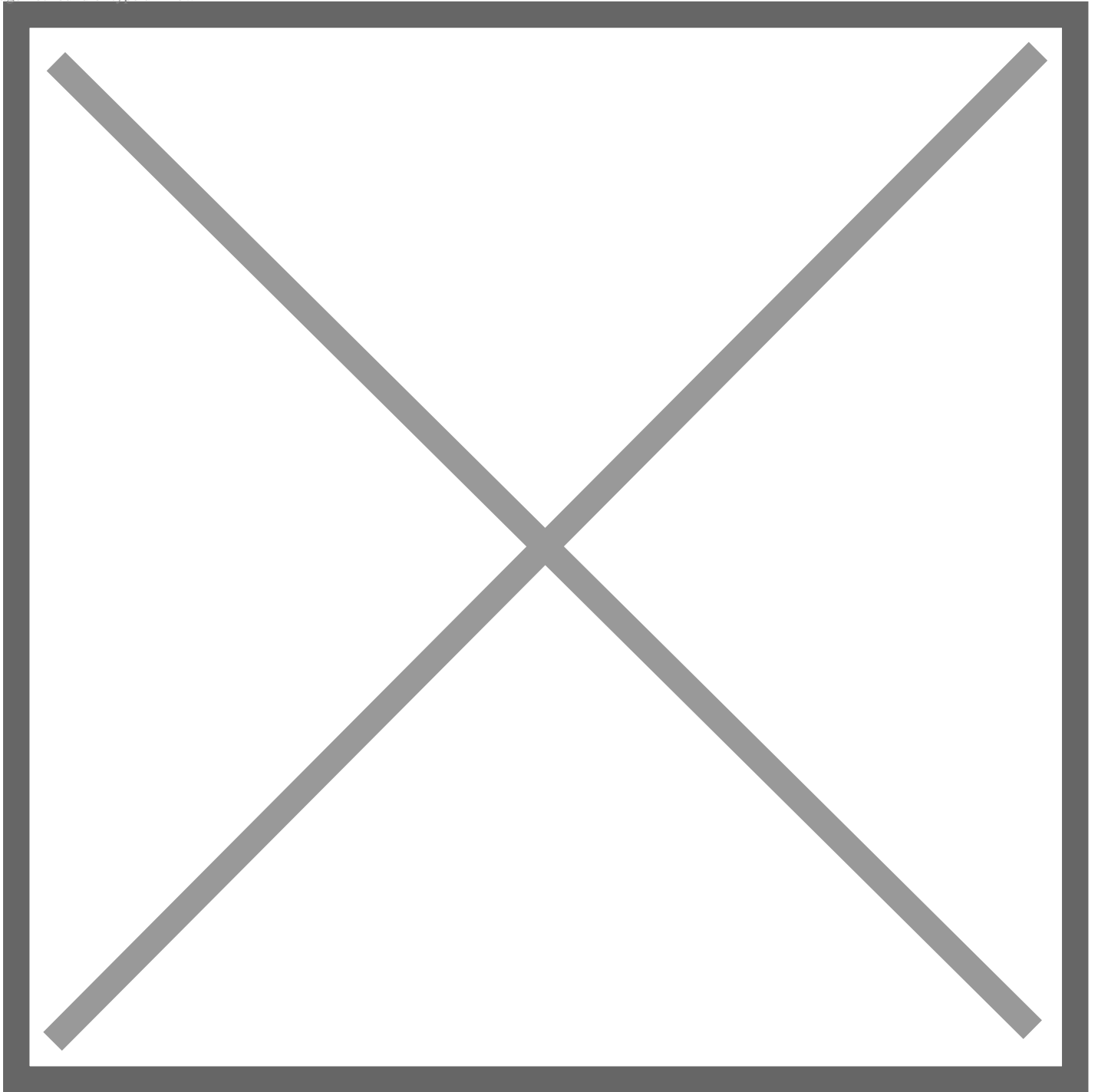
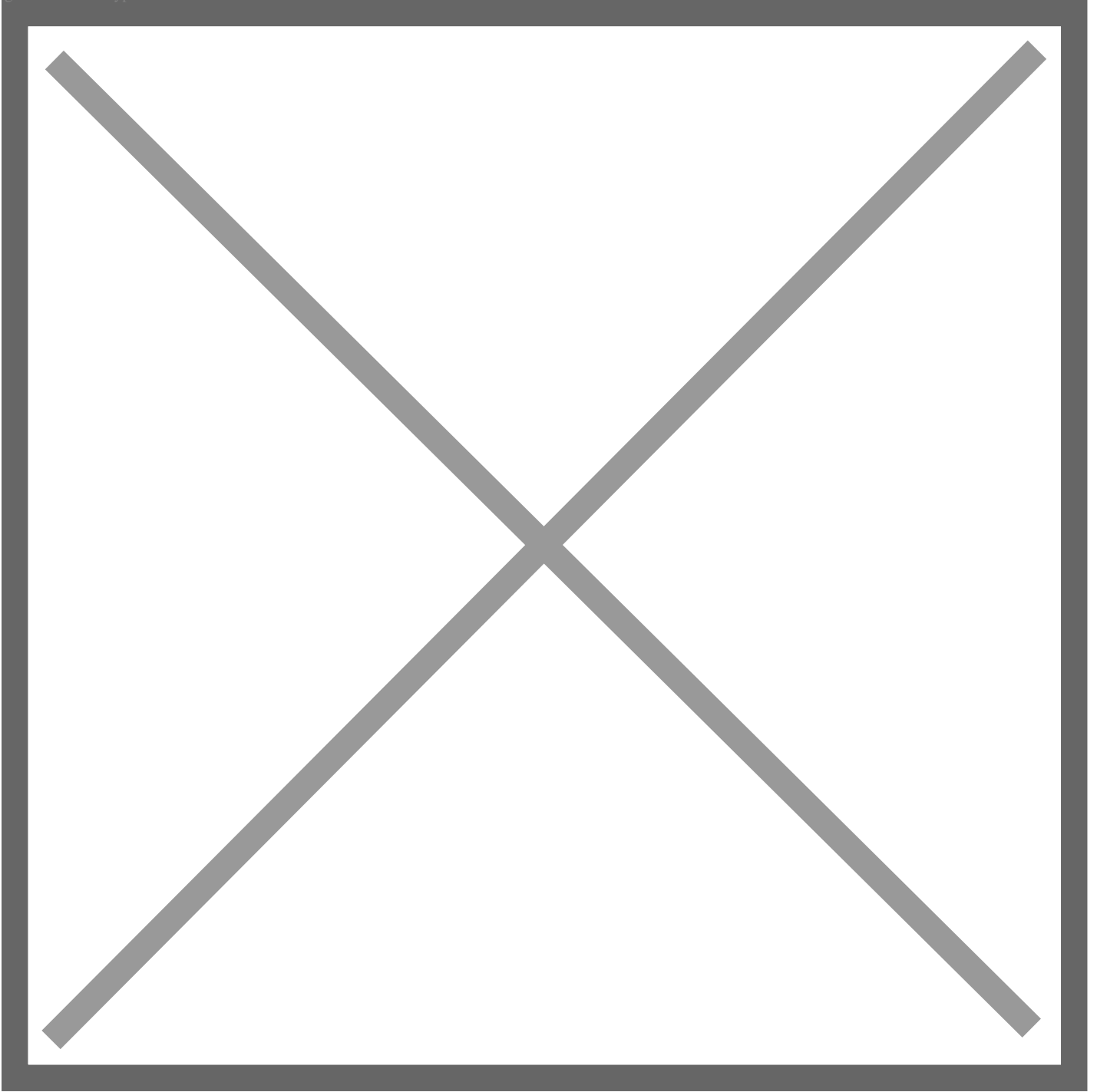


Image not found or type unknown



The "Wheel of Dharma" (Sanskrit: *Dharma Chakra*) is a widespread symbol used in various Indian schools of thought such as Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism, i.a.