

Lesson 5 =e The Rule of the GINKIM { }

In addition to the Coptic letters, the Coptic Language also make use of a dot-like phonetic symbol. The GINKIM was not part of the original language, but was added to help readers pronounce the words. There are various forms

for the GINKIM (~ =) and though some argue that the shape affects the opening of the mouth, it's generally accepted that they're all pronounced alike.

The Rule:

I. When it comes over a vowel letter, it splits the word, because the letter must be pronounced by itself.

A. First, we need to know the Coptic vowel letters:

The way I learned them is to first write the English vowel letters and then match their Coptic counterparts:
(English) A E I O U

(Coptic) a e 3 i o v w

Note: Y is considered a vowel because when it follows an O, it is pronounced an O; some authors consider OY rather than just Y as a vowel

B. Examples:

A`aron is pron. A_a_oon means Aaron

Mari`a Mari_a Mary

~Ebol E_VOL Of

Pek`3poc^{PEK_EE_POC} Your Garden

II. When GINKIM comes over a consonant letter, an e sound proceeds the letter.

A. For Example:

~k=ek ~m=em ~n=en ~d=ed

B. Real Examples:

~K`cmarwovt is pron. EK-ES-MARO-OOT means You are Blessed

~Nnovb EN-NOUB The Gold

~MMariam EM-MARIAM Of Mary

III. Try reading these words:

Word	Meaning
A4`i	(He) Came
)e`otkoc	Mother of God
~Eron	(unto) us
All3lovia	Alleluia
Pi`ehoov	The day
Ei`e`i	I must come
~Ajioc	Holy (Greek)
~Xovab	Holy (Coptic)
%`triac	The Trinity
~Nte	Of
~Precbvteroc	Presbyters (priests)
~Fran	The Name
@ep`hmot	Thank (you)
~Apctoloc	Apostle
~Al30wc	Truely
Pi`wov	The Glory
~Am3n	Amen