- All Hebrew nouns have gender:
  - Masculine
  - Feminine
- It does not matter if a noun is an inanimate object or a living creature; Hebrew nouns themselves are either masculine or feminine.
  - Female people and animals will have feminine nouns.

- Hebrew nouns have number; they are:
  - Singular
  - Plural
  - Some nouns have dual forms:
    - Meaning "two"
    - Usually used for things that come in pairs

• A noun's gender and number can sometimes be determined by the ending of the noun but this is not always the case.

Masculine singular nouns do not have special endings:

thing

בן •	son
1	
• רֹם	day
کڑکا •	king
• ⊐×̈́	father
<u>ב</u> רת •	house
<b>∙ דְרָר</b>	word, matter, t
• <u>ע</u> ם	people, nation

• Some feminine nouns are ending-less too:



land hand city

court

• Many feminine singular nouns end with **T**o as in:



year woman war (extended) family; clan burnt offering ground inheritance teaching, law

- Some feminine singular nouns end with **n**, as in:
  - 📭 daughter
  - ភាយុក sin, sin offering
  - בְּרִית covenant
  - אַכּל time
  - אָדוֹת sister
  - Not all nouns that end in  $rac{rac}$  are feminine; sometimes they are masculine.

- The lexical (dictionary) form for any noun is the singular form.
- Consulting a lexicon is the only absolute way to confirm the gender of a noun.

Masculine plural nouns usually end in <a>></a>?

• Singular Plural Meaning



God; gods face(s) seasons, appointed times books, scrolls mighty warriors stones

- The feminine plural ending is sometimes spelled with holem (<sup>`</sup>) instead of holem vav (<sup>`</sup>).
- The feminine plural form for הּוֹרָדה is:
  - תוֹרוֹת (full or plene spelling) or
  - הוֹרֹת (short or defective spelling).
- With the short form, there is no change in pronunciation or translation.

• Examples of feminine plural nouns:



Plural מִלְחֲמוֹת מִלְּחֲמִהוֹת עּלוֹת הַנְחֲלוֹת

Meaning

wars

(extended) families

burnt offerings

the inheritances

teaching, law

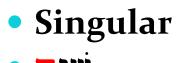
#### Nouns

Some plural nouns have irregular forms:

• Singular	Plural	Meaning
<ul><li>ארלש</li></ul>	אַכָּשִׁרם	men
<ul> <li>דַשַׂאַ</li> </ul>	בַלָּשִׁרם	women
	בָּנִים	sons
<u>خ</u> ر •	בַּכוֹת	daughters
• <u>ج</u> در •	לְצַרִים	cities
<ul> <li>רום</li> </ul>	רָמִים	days

#### Nouns

• The endings of some plural nouns are not always what is expected; some have gender flips, or they have both masculine and feminine endings:



• שֲׁנָה כֵּבְב

• י עציר

• **تَ**لْإِنْكَا

Plural

שָׁנִים , שְׁבּוֹת לֵבְבוֹת עְּרִים דּוֹרִים , דּוֹרוֹת כשׁים Meaning

years (f) hearts (f) cities (f) generations (m) women (f)

- When some singular nouns become plural, vowel changes may or may not occur.
- Two syllable words that are accented on the 2<sup>nd</sup> syllable and have a long vowel in the first syllable will reduce to a sheva or a hatuph vowel in the first syllable (propretonic reduction).



• Dual forms of nouns are for nouns that occur in pairs; these are typically body parts whose nouns are usually feminine:

<ul> <li>Singular</li> </ul>	Dual	Meaning (a pair of)
• 7, <u>5</u>	<b>אַז<u>ַר</u>ר</b>	ears
• <sup>–</sup> <sup>–</sup>	<u>רד</u> ים	hands
כברך	לָצָר <u>ר</u> רִם	eyes
	כַּרְבָיָם	horns
ت ڏر •	<u>ل لأكرد ا</u>	legs

- There are some nouns that have a dual ending for no apparent reason:
- מַיָש water
- שָׁמַיָם sky, heavens
- יְרוּשְׁלֵים Jerusalem
- מִא<u>ָר</u>רָיָם Egypt

- **Segholate** nouns are nouns with 2 syllables in which the first syllable is accented.
- The vowel pattern of the singular form may vary but the plural form has a vocal sheva or hatuph form in the first syllable and a qamets in the second syllable.

<ul> <li>Singular</li> </ul>	Plural	Meaning
<b>ڏ</b> چר •	בְּקַרִים	mornings
يَتْدَح •	<u>הַרָּבוּת</u>	swords
• <u>נֿ</u> עַר	<u>רְעַּר</u> ים	boys
ڊَچھ •	רְׁבָּשׁוֹת	souls

- **Geminate nouns** are nouns with bi-consonantal roots which may have originally had 2 identical letters (twins ~ gemini).
- In the plural form, the geminate letter reappears in the form of a dagesh forte:
- Singular Plural Meaning
   שַׁם מַצַמִים נַצַם peoples
   דּקִים statutes

- Not all bi-consonantal roots are geminates (the plural form does not have dagesh forte).
- Singular Plural Meaning
   אָבוֹת קוֹת fathers (m)
   הַבָּרִים הַאָבוֹת sons (m)
   הַשָּׁם הames (m)

Noun Endings			
	Singular	Plural	Dual
Masculine		 در	<b>□?</b>
Feminine	ਜਿ਼੍- , , ਸ	, -וֹת -ת	, -ָ <u>ת</u> ֿיָם ַיַם

Summary of Noun Endings			
	Singular	Plural	Dual
Masculine (horse)	010	סוּסָים	סוּסָׂיִם
Feminine (mare)	סוּסָה	סוּסות	סוּסָתַיִם

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