

Clan MORGAN



ARMS

Green with a gold lion.

CREST

Not available

MOTTO

None

It is remarkable that the name Morgan exists, or in historic times existed in Scotland nowhere else than in Aberdeenshire and among the Sutherland Mackays. Clan Morgan was long the designation of the Mackays of the Reay county, and it is probable, though perhaps not demonstrable, that there was a close connection between them and the Aberdeenshire Morgans. The Pictish form of the name is *Morgunn*, with gen. *Morcunn* and *Morcunt*. The name exists also in Old British, Old Breton, and Cornish as *Morcant*, Welsh *Morgan*, and the *Morken* of Jocelin's Life of *Kentigern* is a form of it. It comes from early Celtic **mori-canto-s* 'sea bright'. The founder of the Pelagian heresy was a British monk named Morgan whose name was Graecized as Pelagius. Morgrun, comes de Mar, 1214-49. Morgund, son of John Abbe, 1204-11 appears c. 1239 as Morgund Filius Abbe, a lay abbot. Morgund de Glenesk, of county of Forfare, rendered homage, 1296. John Morgane was burgess of Glasgow, 1419, and John Murgounis, one of the tenants of Wester Micras (Mecray), 1539. James Morgound in Gay was fined for resetting Clan Gregor, 1613. The name still exists in Aberdeenshire, and John Murgan was one of the Huntly Volunteers, 1798. The Morgans appear to have spread down the East Coast as far as Fife, where the place name Ramorinie means 'rath (of the) Morganach'.

Taken from "The Surnames of Scotland", by George F. Black, The New York Public Library 1999

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