

***airuz** Runic: 𐌱𐌰𐌹𐌺 Pronunciation: /'ɑj.ruz/

noun · masculine · u-stem

Meanings

messenger; emissary; herald, especially an itinerant representative; an angel in some reflexes

Etymology

Of uncertain origin. Orel's (2003: s.v. **airaz*) derivation from **airi* leaves both the derivational morphology and the semantic development unexplained. It may continue a substantivized verbal adjective **h₁ey-ru-s*, from Proto-Indo-European **h₁ey-*, with the semantic development ‘traveler’ → ‘emissary, messenger’ (Krahe & Meid 1969: 80; Wood 1898: 82). Mees (2022a: 288 n. 3) instead connects **airuz* with **arundijq* and proposes that both were formed from a verbal base ultimately related to Latin *ōrō*, borrowed through Gaulish **ār-*. This interpretation is semantically attractive but remains speculative, since the Gaulish intermediate is unattested and the development of **ār-* to the **air-* of **airuz* would have to be analogical.

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	airuz	airiwiz
Acc.	airu	airunz
Gen.	airauz	airiwê
Dat.	airiwi	airumaz
Inst.	airū	airumiz
Voc.	airu	airiwiz

Descendants

***airu** (Proto-West Germanic)

| **ār** (Old English)

***airu** (Proto-West Germanic)

| **ēr** (Old Saxon)

ár, qrr (Old Norse)

| **ár** (Icelandic)

| **āri** (Old Swedish)

𐌶𐌿𐌹𐌸 (airus) (Gothic)

***ājrēs** (Proto-Samic)

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