

***aipastabaz**

Runic: ᚠ | ᚢ ᚦ ᚨ ᚱ ᚷ ᚹ ᚻ ᚾ

Pronunciation: /'aɪ.θa.ˌsta.βəz/

noun · masculine · a-stem

Meanings

1. an oath formula; the prescribed wording of an oath
2. by extension, an oath or the taking of an oath

Etymology

From **aiþaz* + **stabaz*, with the second constituent in the specialized sense ‘word, clause, formula’; thus literally ‘oath-wording’ rather than ‘oath-staff’ (Carr 1939: 46; Love et al. 2020: s.v. *eiðstafr*; Orel 2003: 10). The compound is continued by Old Norse *eiðstafr*, while Old English *āþstæf*, Old Saxon *ēdstaf*, and Middle High German *eitstap* show metonymic generalization from the formula to the oath itself (Orel 2003: 10).

The first constituent **aīpaz* continues Celto-Germanic **oito-s* (‘oath’), traditionally derived from Proto-Indo-European **h₁óy-to-s*, from root **h₁ey-*, though both the PIE derivation and the possibility of early Celtic borrowing remain uncertain. Cognate with Old Irish *óeth* and perhaps Ancient Greek *οἶτος* (*oîtos*) and Old Phrygian **oito-* (Mallory & Adams 1997: 408–409; Orel 2003: 10). The second constituent, **stabaz*, ultimately belongs to Proto-Indo-European root **steb^h-*, with cognates including Sanskrit *स्तब्नाति* (*stabhnāti*), Lithuanian *stābas*, and Middle Irish *sab* (Orel 2003: 368).

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	aiṗastabaz	aiṗastabōz, aiṗastabōs
Acc.	aiṗastabaḡ	aiṗastabanz
Gen.	aiṗastabas, aiṗastabis	aiṗastabô
Dat.	aiṗastabai	aiṗastabamaz
Inst.	aiṗastabō	aiṗastabamiz
Voc.	aiṗastab	aiṗastabōz, aiṗastabōs

Descendants

- *aiṗastab (Proto-West Germanic)
 - āṗstæf (Old English)
- *aiṗastab (Proto-West Germanic)
 - *eidstap, eidstab (Old High German)
 - eitstap (Middle High German)
- *aiṗastab (Proto-West Germanic)
 - ēdstaf, ēthstaf (Old Saxon)
 - eitstevere, ētstēvære, ētstēver, eitstēver (Middle Low German)
- eiðstafr (Old Norse)
 - eiðstafur (Icelandic)

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Related Words

Words mentioned in this entry

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